

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

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 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, Councilmembers Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, and Councilmember Matt Mahan, Members.

ABSENT: All Present.

STAFF: Acting 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

1. Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support Committee Work Plan Update.

Defer the following item from the September 16, 2021 Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support (PSFSS) Committee meeting to the November 18, 2021 PSFSS Committee meeting: Housing and Childcare Options for Gender-Based Violence Survivors Report. (Housing) Purpose: Provide a report on housing and childcare options for gender-based violence survivors developed by the working group comprised by staff from the City of San José Housing Department, County of Santa Clara Office of Supportive Housing, Community Solutions, and Destination: Home.

Public Comments: (1) Tessa Woodmansee spoke to general housing issues. (2) Blair Beekman spoke to work needed in domestic violence issues and for peer review.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, seconded by Councilmember Sergio Jimenez and carried unanimously, the Housing and Childcare Options for Gender-Based Violence Survivors Report was deferred to the November 18, 2021 PSFSS Committee meeting. (5-0.)

(c) Consent Calendar

None provided.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

1. Police Department Operations and Performance Bi-Monthly Status Report. (Police)

Lt. Steve Donohue, Commander of the Research & Development Program, and Dave Anaya San José Police Department, provided a presentation and responded to questions joined by Assistant Police Chief Joseph Paul and Acting City Manager Jennifer Maguire.

Public Comments: (1) Paul Soto questioned data collection procedures. (2) Speaker '5140' expressed dissatisfaction with the San José PD. (3) Tessa Woodmansee expressed views on the stability of children with stay-at-home mothers. (4) Blair Beekman spoke to overtime for police officers and KSI statistics.

Councilmember Sylvia Arenas requested a commitment of staff to focus on clearance of unhoused around safe zones.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, seconded by Councilmember Matt Mahan, and carried unanimously, the verbal bi-monthly status report on Police Department operations and performance in the areas of city-wide crime statistics, crime trends, emerging issues, and other matters of interest, as needed, with a focus on gang-related crimes, gender-based violence, police redistricting efforts, traffic enforcement unit staffing, and the filled status of sworn work staffed by overtime was accepted. (5-0.)

2. Police Reforms Work Plan: Reimagining Community Safety Process Status Report. (City Manager)

Angel Rios, Deputy City Manager and Poncho Guevara, Executive Director, Sacred Heart Community Service provided the presentation and responded to questions.

Public Comments: (1) Tessa Woodmansee spoke to emergency preparedness and the climate emergency. (2) Paul Soto indicated he doesn't want the Chicano piece of this issue missed and questioned the role of the Police Officers' union. (3) Speaker '5140' offered criticism of the PD and lack of patrolling. (4) Blair Beekman spoke to the importance of emergency services and talking to the reimagining community.

Action: Upon motion by Vice Mayor Chappie Jones, seconded by Councilmember Matt Mahan, and carried unanimously, the status report on the Police Reforms Work Plan: Reimagining Community Safety process was accepted. (5-0.)

3. Police Department Duty Manual Updates Status Report. (Police)

Lt. Jaime Jimenez provided an introduction, and Angelie Montesa, Crime and Intelligence Analyst provided a presentation.

Public Comments: (1) Tessa Woodmansee indicated that a hotel in her neighborhood is attracting a criminal element. (2) Paul Soto spoke to a sexual assault he suffered and unjust response. (3) Caller “5140” criticized use of power. (4) Blair Beekman spoke to the concepts of peer review in building the future of the police department.

Police Lieutenant Robert Lang responded to questions.

Motion: Councilmember Sylvia Arenas moved approval of the report, adding that the City Manager add to our Police Department Duty Manual Update status reports and to the gender-based violence response strategy work plan, including the unresolved item on the alignment of measurable outcomes, and with staff to bring back more information on each of the work plan items during the bi-monthly updates. Vice Mayor Chappie Jones seconded the motion.

Action: On a call for the question and carried unanimously, the status report on the implementation of updates made to the Police Department’s Duty Manual for the purposes of improving the Police Department’s interactions with survivors of domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, human trafficking, and other vulnerable populations, including 1) requiring officers to respond to and investigate all calls for service for domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, and human trafficking for potential high lethality and write a police report if a crime occurred, and 2) ensuring a trauma-informed approach to an officer’s response by providing survivors with access to an in-person advocate and/or a referral to such advocate by telephone, pamphlet, or resource card before the officer leaves the scene regardless if the survivor asks for the referral service was accepted, with the City Manager adding to our Police Department Duty Manual Update status reports and to the gender-based violence response & strategy work plan, including the unresolved item on the alignment of measurable outcomes, and with staff to bring back more information on each of the work plan items during the bi-monthly updates. (4-0-1. Absent: Jimenez.)

Vice Mayor Chappie Jones left the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

4. Workers’ Compensation Program Annual Report. (Human Resources)

Jennifer Schembri, Director of Employee Relations/ Director of Human Resources and Eric Fortes, Division Manager were available for questions. The presentation not given due to a lack of remaining time and the possible loss of a quorum.

Public Comments: (1) Paul Soto asked for more oversight. (2) Blair Beekman addressed pay raises for City workers and better conversation about the vaccine passport process. (3) Speaker ‘5140’ spoke to workman’s comp claims and need for more transparency. (4) Tessa Woodmansee suggested more foot patrols.

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4. Workers' Compensation Program Annual Report. (Cont'd.)

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, seconded by Councilmember Matt Mahan and carried unanimously, the annual report on the City's efforts to contain workers' compensation costs and reduce claims for the Workers' Compensation Program by focusing on wellness, health, and safety through the end of 2020-2021 was accepted. (3-0-2. Absent: Jones, Jimenez.)

OPEN FORUM

1. Tessa Woodmansee spoke to preparation for disasters.
2. Paul Soto spoke to unjust treatment by the San José PD.
3. Blair Beekman asked for good peer review programs and a reminder about the reimagining task force and its six-month deadline.
4. Speaker '5140' criticized controlling behavior.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Raul Peralez adjourned the meeting at 5:04 p.m.

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

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