



NEWS RELEASE

City of Chico
Office of the City Council
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FOR RELEASE – APRIL 8, 2021

From: Deborah R. Presson, City Clerk & Elections Official - 530-896-7251

APRIL 6, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The regular City Council meeting of April 6, 2021 was held to discuss the items as outlined on the agenda. Listed below is a summary of actions taken by Council. Should you have any questions regarding this meeting, please reach out to debbie.presson@chicoca.gov or by calling 896-7251.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- **HEARING ON THE DISSOLUTION OF TURNING POINT COMMONS, INC. LIMITED EQUITY HOUSING COOPERATIVE – Item 4.1.**

The Community Housing Improvement Program, Inc. requested that a public hearing be held pursuant to Civil Code Section 817.2. The hearing was held and Council voted 7-0 to adopt a resolution approving the dissolution of Turning Point Commons, Inc. Limited Equity Housing Cooperative so that the housing project may be improved and retained as affordable housing.

- **HEARING ORDERING FORMATION OF MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT A30 – TATREAU PARCEL MAP 17-02 – Item 4.2.**

Council voted 7-0 to adopt a resolution ordering the formation of Maintenance Assessment District A30 and approving a Declaration of Conditions, Covenants, and restrictions relating to the district.

- **HEARING ON AMENDMENTS TO EXEMPT GOVERNMENTAL SIGNS IN CHAPTER 19.74 OF TITLE 19 OF THE CHICO MUNICIPAL SIGN CODE - Item 4.3.**

Council voted 7-0 to introduce an ordinance amending Chapter 19.74 of Title 19 of the Chico Municipal Code that will create new definitions for Governmental Signs and Information Sign Kiosks, exempt these sign types from the sign permit requirements, and add provisions in the Sign Code where none currently exist in the PQ (Public/Quasi Public Facilities) zone. The Informational Sign Kiosk program is an important component of the Downtown Access Action Plan (DAAP) and serves as an economic development tool by providing pedestrian wayfinding signage with information regarding Downtown accessibility, parking, community events, business directory, historical buildings and similar community information.

The proposed Sign Code amendments were initiated by Public Works staff as part of the DAAP and at the request of the Downtown Chico Business Association (DCBA). Planning staff added the sign code provision in the PQ zone because none currently exist in the Sign Code.

- **VEGETATIVE FUELS MANAGEMENT PLAN AND PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT – Item 4.4.**

Council reviewed the Vegetative Fuels Management Plan (VFMP) and Program EIR which is a plan created with funds from a CalFire Community Wildfire Prevention Grant. The plan was prepared to describe actions that the City will implement on the City’s approximate 6,400 acres of parks, greenways, and open spaces to minimize the risk of catastrophic wildfire and to enhance ecological health. Adoption of the VFMP is a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), so an environmental document, in this case a programmatic EIR, was prepared to analyze the effects of adopting the VFMP.

At its 3/08/21 Special Meeting, the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission (BPPC) voted to forward the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the VFMP to the Council for consideration. The PEIR included the responses to the comments received and all changes made to the PEIR and VFMP in response to those comments.

The Council voted 7-0 to adopt the resolutions certifying the Final PEIR and its associated Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and the Final VFMP. These documents can be found on the City’s website at: <https://www.chico.ca.us/post/vegetative-fuels-management-plan>.

REGULAR AGENDA

- **BUTTE COUNTY BEHAVIORIAL HEALTH PRESENTATION – Item 5.1.**

The Council received a comprehensive overview of the Butte County Behavioral Health’s funding, programs, and facilities and how they benefit the City of Chico.

It was noted by Council that the presentation was very informative and invited Behavior Health to come back again for future presentations. The link to hear this presentation can be found at http://chico-ca.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=952

- **INCREASE IN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING BEDS – Item 5.2. - *Tabled to a future meeting.***

- **AMENDMENT OF LOCAL 39 STATIONARY ENGINEERS CalPERS CONTRIBUTION – Item 5.3.**

The City Council voted 7-0 to adopt an ordinance authorizing an amendment to the contract between the City Council of the City of Chico and the Board of Administration of the California Public Employee’s Retirement System. On March 16, 2021, the City Council adopted a resolution that approved the City’s intent to amend the contract between the City of Chico and the California Public Employees’ Retirement System (CalPERS) to implement negotiated changes to the paying and reporting of retirement contributions as recently adopted under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for L39 employees.

- **DISCUSSION OF CARDROOM IN THE DOWNTOWN – Item 5.4.**

Former Councilmember Ory asked that Jon Scott’s request regarding a cardroom in the downtown area be delayed until after the first of the year. This item was originally approved by the Council for a future discussion. Vice Mayor Reynolds noted that she would carry this item for Councilmember Ory since he would no longer be on the Council at that time.

The Council voted 7-0 to refer this discussion to the Internal Affairs Committee for further public input and consideration by the Committee, with any identified recommendations to be brought back to the full Council.

- **COUNCILMEMBER BROWN REQUEST – OUTDOOR SHELTERING OPPORTUNITY – Item 5.5.**

Council discussed the proposal that Councilmember Brown presented regarding an outdoor sheltering opportunity at the BMX site.

The Council voted 5/2, (with Councilmembers Brown and Huber opposed) to: (1) stop working on an outdoor shelter concept at the BMX site; (2) revisit the use of the CDBG funds as noted in the staff report for possible alternative uses; and (3) rescind the Shelter Crisis Declaration.

Staff Notation: Please note that this action did not rescind the Shelter Crisis Declaration which was adopted in 2018. In order to rescind the original declaration, the adoption of a resolution would be needed to rescind the prior action.

In addition, Council voted 7-0 to have staff provide the County’s survey results to the Council when its information becomes available, along with details regarding the survey instrument used to gather the data.

- **MAYOR COOLIDGE REQUEST – REVIEW OF BUTTE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE – Item 5.6.-**
This item was continued to a future meeting.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- **CITY MANAGER’S REPORT – Item 6.1. - *Verbal Report, City Manager Orme***

- ***Update on allowing public attendance at future meetings.***

Council voted 7-0 to move forward on opening up meetings to the public, with allowing attendance in the Council Chamber at 50% capacity using every other seat unless from the same household. Conference Room 1 would be used at 50% capacity as overflow for citizens.

Staff will immediately begin the development of the plan to meet this request which includes identifying ways to bring the Department Heads back into the Chamber and to come up with some type of dividers for all Councilmembers to sit at the dais. This process maybe a two-step process with the ultimate goal to allow public attendance in the actual Council Chamber as soon as possible.

- **SUNSHINING OF NEGOTIATION PROPOSALS – CPSA – Item 6.2. – *Information only***

Under the terms of the Council’s request to sunshine Union Proposals, Council was provided the initial proposals from the Chico Public Safety Association (CPSA). Additionally, Council was provided with the City’s initial/counter proposals for the CPSA. Once negotiations conclude, the final draft agreements will be brought back to Council for action in open session.

- **MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT AND BUDGET MONITORING REPORTS – *Information only***

- **COUNCILMEMBER REQUESTS**

- **LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR AB36 – Mayor Coolidge Request**

Council voted 5-2 (Councilmembers Brown & Huber opposed) to authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support for AB36 Design Build Contracting, Town of Paradise.

- **DISTRICT 7 CONSCENTRATION OF SERVICES – Councilmember Tandon Request**

Council voted 6-1 (Councilmember Brown opposed) to agendize Councilmember Tandon’s request to agendize a discussion regarding the disproportionate concentration of services in District 7, with the request expanded to include concentration of services throughout the City.

- **CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT** – *Council met in Closed Session regarding the items as noted below. No action was taken; direction was provided.*
 - **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR - Item 7.2.**

Employee Organizations: Chico Police Officers Association, Chico Public Safety Association, Stationary Engineers, Local 39, Service Employees International Union - Trades & Crafts
 - **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL AND RISK MANAGER – Item 7.3.** – Pending Litigation: *The City Attorney and Risk Manager reviewed settlement of a workers’ compensation claim pursuant to Gov. Code Sec. 54956.9(d)(1). Case: XXXXX vs. City of Chico: (WC Claim No. CWFO-550054)*
 - **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION – Item 7.4. - Pursuant to Cal. Gov. Code Sec. 54956.9(d)(1): One case:**

CHICO SCRAP METAL V. CITY OF CHICO (SCSC CASE NO. 18CV03900)
 - **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION/APPOINTMENT/DISMISSAL/RELEASE:** (Gov. Code section 54957(b)(1).) Title: City Attorney, City Clerk, and City Manager

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 p.m. to the Adjourned Regular City Council meeting on April 20, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at 421 Main St. Chico, CA.

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