



# City of San Pablo

## Meeting Minutes

### City Council

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Tuesday, January 20, 2026

5:00 PM

City Council Chambers

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#### CITY COUNCIL/LOCAL SUCCESSOR AGENCY/JOINT POWERS FINANCING AUTHORITY

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

*The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM in the Council Chambers.*

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*Mayor Pabon-Alvarado led the Pledge of Allegiance.*

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 5 - Councilmember Arturo Cruz, Councilmember Patricia Ponce, Councilmember Abel Pineda, Vice Mayor Rita Xavier, and Mayor Elizabeth Pabon-Alvarado

Staff Present:

City Manager, Matt Rodriguez

City Attorney, Brian P. Hickey

City Clerk, Dorothy Gantt

Interim Deputy City Clerk, Casey Erlenheim

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

*Adjourned to Closed Session at 5:01PM regarding:*

1. [26-014](#) CLOSED SESSION  
Pursuant to Gov't Code section 54957:  
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION  
Title: City Manager

*No Public Comments were received on Closed Session*

*Reconvene to Regular Session at 6:09 PM*

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 5 - Councilmember Arturo Cruz, Councilmember Patricia Ponce, Councilmember Abel Pineda, Vice Mayor Rita Xavier, and Mayor Elizabeth Pabon-Alvarado

## Staff Present:

City Manager, Matt Rodriguez  
Assistant City Manager, Maria Ojeda  
City Attorney, Brian P. Hickey  
Police Chief, Brian Bubar  
Economic Development and Housing Manager, Kieron Slaughter  
City Clerk, Dorothy Gantt  
Interim Deputy City Clerk, Casey Erlenheim

**REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION**

*No reportable action on Closed Session*

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

*One Oral Communication was received from the following: Mikresh Karki*

**CEREMONIAL MATTERS****PROCLAMATIONS**

2. [25-536](#) CONSIDER APPROVING AND PRESENTING PROCLAMATION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING POLICE ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK CAROL REID ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT.

CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

*No Public Comments were received.*

**Presented.**

**PRESENTATIONS**

3. [25-533](#) INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE BEEN PROMOTED FOR OCTOBER 2025 - DECEMBER 2025

*No Public Comments were received.*

**Presented.**

An additional late submitted Oral Communication was allowed and received at this time from the following: Nick Ubaldi.

**CITY MANAGER REMARKS**

City Manager Matt Rodriguez made the following announcement: In Partnership with The San Pablo Economic Development Department, The Cities of Albany, El Cerrito, Pinole, and Richmond, the City of San Pablo is hosting a Job Fair open to the public on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at City Hall, 1000 Gateway Avenue, San Pablo.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

## MINUTES

4. [25-528](#) CONSIDER APPROVING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 15, 2025

CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

Approved.

**PERIODIC REPORTS**

5. [25-505](#) CONSIDER APPROVING VENDOR CHECK REGISTER REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2025

CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

Approved.

6. [26-003](#) RECEIVE AND FILE THE ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

Received and Filed.

**LIABILITY CLAIMS**

7. [25-532](#) CONSIDER DENYING LIABILITY CLAIMS OF ALMA AVILES (DOL 6/24/25) AND CARLOS G. QUINTANILLA (DOL 6/24/25)

CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

Denied.

**CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION**

- 8. [25-480](#) CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION OF THE LOCAL SUCCESSOR AGENCY OF THE FORMER REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO APPROVING AN ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET AND ADOPTING THE RECOGNIZED OBLIGATION PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 (“ROPS 26-27”)

CEQA: This is not a project as defined by CEQA.

**Adopted.**

Enactment No: RES LSA 2026-001

- 9. [25-509](#) CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH 101VOICE FOR HOSTED VOIP TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT OF \$821.26 IN ONE TIME IMPLEMENTATION COSTS, AND \$2,470.93 IN MONTHLY COSTS FOR A TOTAL COST OF \$149,286 OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD

CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

**Adopted.**

Enactment No: RES 2026-001

- 10. [25-535](#) CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH PINNACLE PETROLEUM, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF FUEL FOR CITY OPERATIONS; INCREASING COMPENSATION BY UP TO \$90,000 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025/26; AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION NOT TO EXCEED \$180,000 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026/27 THROUGH MARCH 1, 2027; EXTENDING THE AGREEMENT TERM THROUGH MARCH 1, 2027; AND ESTABLISHING A TOTAL AGREEMENT AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$974,846

CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

**Adopted.**

Enactment No: RES 2026-002

- 11. [26-005](#) CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 5 TO THE FISCAL RESILIENCY RESERVE POLICY, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 20, 2026.

CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

Adopted.

Enactment No: RES 2026-003

- 12. [26-004](#) CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE GENERAL FUND DESIGNATED RESERVES (GFDR) FUND BALANCE FOR A TOTAL FUND BALANCE OF \$6,836,566 FOR FY 2025-26 TO CITY COUNCIL APPROVED APPROPRIATIONS THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 20, 2026

CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

Adopted.

Enactment No: RES 2026-004

- 13. [25-545](#) CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT NO. 651 WITH THE CONTRA COSTA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE A CITY OF SAN PABLO LOCAL FUNDING CONTRIBUTION OF \$217,877 FOR THE COUNTYWIDE SMART SIGNALS PROJECT

CEQA: This proposed action is consistent with the previously completed Initial Study with previously adopted Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment.

Adopted.

Enactment No: RES 2026-005

- 14. [25-534](#) ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO AMENDING CHAPTER 15.04 OF THE SAN PABLO MUNICIPAL CODE BY ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE 2025 CALIFORNIA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE; 2025 CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE, VOLUMES 1 AND 2, WITH APPENDIX CHAPTERS G, H, I, J, N, P AND Q, AS AMENDED; 2025 CALIFORNIA RESIDENTIAL CODE, WITH APPENDIX CHAPTERS BB, BF, BG, CI, AND CJ, AS AMENDED; 2025 CALIFORNIA ELECTRICAL CODE WITH ANNEXES A, C, AND I; 2025 CALIFORNIA MECHANICAL CODE WITH APPENDIX CHAPTERS B, C, F, G AND H; 2025 CALIFORNIA PLUMBING CODE WITH APPENDIX CHAPTERS A, D, G, H, I, J, M, AND R; 2025 CALIFORNIA ENERGY CODE, AS AMENDED; 2025 CALIFORNIA

HISTORICAL BUILDING CODE; 2025 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE WITH AMENDMENTS ADOPTED BY THE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT; 2025 CALIFORNIA EXISTING BUILDING CODE; 2025 CALIFORNIA GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS CODE; 2025 CALIFORNIA REFERENCED STANDARDS CODE; 2025 CALIFORNIA WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE CODE; AND THE 2024 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE, AS AMENDED; AND DETERMINING THAT ADOPTION OF THESE AMENDMENTS IS EXEMPT FROM ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT.

CEQA: This proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) (i.e., the “common sense” exemption) in that its purpose to provide minimum standards to safeguard life, limb, health, property, and public welfare of construction and its adoption will not have the effect of deleting or substantially changing any regulatory standards or findings and it can be determined with certainty that the adoption of the proposed amendments to the Municipal Code has no potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. In addition, adoption of these amendments is exempt from review under CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 because the project is an action being taken by a regulatory agency where the process involves procedures for the protection of the environment that do not have the potential to cause significant effects on the environment.

**Adopted.**

Enactment No: ORD 2025-006

No Public Comments were received on the Consent Calendar.

**Approval of the Consent Agenda**

It was moved by Vice Mayor Xavier, seconded by Councilmember Cruz, and approved by vote of those present, to adopt all items in the Consent Calendar. The motion passed as follows:

**Aye: 5 - Cruz, Ponce, Pineda, Xavier, Pabon-Alvarado and Cruz**

**\* \* \* \* END OF CONSENT CALENDAR \* \* \* \***

**ORDINANCES**

15. [25-488](#) CONSIDER AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO ADDING CHAPTER 9.70 (JUST CAUSE FOR EVICTION PROTECTIONS) AND CHAPTER 9.80 (HOUSING STABILITY AND ANTI-HARASSMENT PROTECTIONS) TO THE SAN PABLO MUNICIPAL CODE

CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

*There were 11 (eleven) Public Comments received from the following: Roxana Alvarado, Ramiro Magaña, Ana Romero, Ms. Clara Faira, Paul Frank, Domingo Barajas, Linda Jackson, Nana del Carmen, Rhea Laughlin, Jennifer Rizzo, Tomasa Espinoza*

A motion was made by Councilmember Cruz to waive first reading and introduce. This Ordinance failed for lack of second.

A motion was made by Councilmember Pineda, seconded by Councilmember Ponce to refer the ordinance to staff for the following revisions and return to Council at a later date:

1. Increasing relocation assistance for No-fault Evictions to an amount equal to two (2) months rent;
2. Allowing displaced tenants to return to the rental unit after a No-Fault Eviction at the same rent in effect at the time of the eviction, subject to any allowable increases under state law; and
3. Extending anti-harassment protections to residents of mobile homes, with the mobile home residency law taking precedence in the event of any conflict.

Motion Passed as follows:

Aye: 5 - Cruz, Ponce, Pineda, Xavier, and Pabon-Alvarado

Meeting went into Recess at 8:21 PM

Meeting Reconvened at 8:33 PM

**ROLL CALL**

Present: 5 - Councilmember Arturo Cruz, Councilmember Patricia Ponce, Councilmember Abel Pineda, Vice Mayor Rita Xavier, and Mayor Elizabeth Pabon-Alvarado

**CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION**

16. [25-543](#) CONSIDER RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY OF SAN PABLO SLOGAN “TEAMWORK SAN PABLO 2026 - THE YEAR OF SERVICE” FOR THE JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2026 PERIOD

CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

*No Public Comments were received.*

**A motion was made by Councilmember Ponce, seconded by Mayor Pabon-Alvarado, that this RESOLUTION be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Cruz, Ponce, Pineda, Xavier, and Pabon-Alvarado

Enactment No: RES 2026-006

17. [26-008](#) CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED (DRAFT) CONCEPTUAL CITY-WIDE BEAUTIFICATION PLAN, CONSISTING OF PROPOSED CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDED UNDER <\$75,000, FOR POTENTIAL FUTURE INCORPORATION< ADOPTION AND PROGRAMMING INTO THE CITY’S ADOPTED MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) BUDGET FOR FY 2026-27, FY 2027-28 AND FY 2028-29

CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

*No Public Comments were received.*

**It was moved by Mayor Pabon-Alvarado, and seconded by Councilmember Cruz to Direct the City Manager to formally solicit a project consultant or engineer to develop a final Plan which includes all cost estimates, project timelines, including one-time funding Allocation sources identified for future capital programming into the City’s Multi-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget for project implementation for FY 2026-27, FY 2027-28 and FY 2028-29 periods. The motion passed as follows:**

**Aye:** 5 - Cruz, Ponce, Pineda, Xavier, and Pabon-Alvarado

18. [25-544](#) CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION ON CITY COUNCIL APPOINTIVE PROCESS TO FILL ONE (1) VACANCY ON THE SAN PABLO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A TWO-YEAR STAGGERED TERM FROM FEBRUARY 2026 - JANUARY 2028  
CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

*One Public Comment was received from the following: Juan Munúz.*

It was moved by Councilmember Ponce, seconded by Mayor Pabon-Alvarado to nominate Councilmember Cruz to serve a two-year staggered term from February 2026 through January 2028 on the SPEDC Board, and to submit the appointment to the SPEDC Board for approval. The motion passed as follows:

**Aye:** 5 - Cruz, Ponce, Pineda, Xavier, and Pabon-Alvarado

19. [26-007](#) CONSIDER RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO AFFIRMING RECOMMENDED CITY COUNCILMEMBER APPOINTMENTS BY MAYOR PABON-ALVARADO OF INDIVIDUAL CITY COUNCILMEMBERS TO ALL TEMPORARY AD-HOC SUBCOMMITTEES, STANDING COMMITTEES AND REGIONAL/LOCAL ASSIGNMENTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026 PURSUANT TO SAN PABLO MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.16.070

CEQA: This proposed action is not a project as defined by CEQA.

*No Public Comments were received.*

It was moved by Councilmember Ponce, seconded by Vice Mayor Xavier, and approved by vote of those present, to adopt this resolution. The motion passed as follows:

**Aye:** 5 - Cruz, Ponce, Pineda, Xavier, and Pabon-Alvarado

Enactment No: RES 2026-007

**SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS (IF ANY)**

20. [25-517](#) MATERIALS SUBMITTED AFTER PUBLICATION OF THE AGENDA WILL BE APPENDED AFTER THE COUNCIL MEETING. THIS IS NOT AN ACTION ITEM BUT MERELY A MECHANISM FOR MATERIALS SUBMITTED AFTER PUBLICATION OF THE AGENDA TO BE APPENDED TO THE PUBLISHED AGENDA AFTER THE COUNCIL MEETING.

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS REPORTS**

- (a) Councilmember Arturo Cruz
- (b) Councilmember Patricia Ponce
- (c) Councilmember Abel Pineda
- (d) Vice Mayor Rita Xavier
- (e) Mayor Elizabeth Pabon-Alvarado

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Adjourned at 9:17 PM to the Special City Council meeting of January 26, 2026 at 5:00 PM*

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Casey Erlenheim, Interim Deputy City Clerk**