



Minutes of the Special Meeting of the San Pablo City Council

Monday, February 11, 2019

ROLL CALL

The meeting convened in the Wildcat Creek Community Room of the San Pablo Library at 12:06 pm. Present were Mayor Rich Kinney, Vice Mayor Arturo Cruz and Councilmembers Elizabeth Pabon-Alvarado, Rita Xavier and Abel Pineda. Also present were City Manager Matt Rodriguez and Deputy City Clerk Lehny Corbin. Present in the audience were Executive Leadership Group (ELG) members Assistant City Manager Reina Schwartz, Police Chief Ron Raman, Public Works Director/City Engineer Jill Mercurio, Administrative Service Director Kelly Sessions, Community & Economic Development Services Director Charles Ching, Community Services Director Greg Dwyer, City Treasurer Viviana Toledo, and Executive Assistant to the City Manager LaTanya Fisher.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There were no speakers.

PRESENTATIONS (#19-060)

1. City Manager Rodriguez introduced the item and the purpose and process of the City Council Strategic Priority-Setting Workshop. Patrick Ibarra of The Mejorando Group facilitated the workshop by getting the City Council to identify what they are trying to accomplish under the following categories:

Benefits from Good Government

Enhancing Credibility as a Governing Body

Refresher on the Form of Government:

- Role of Mayor
- Role of Councilmember
- Role of City Manager
- Role of Department Heads
- Role of City Staff
- Role of Community Members

A break was taken from 1:25pm to 1:33pm.

City Manager Rodriguez gave some background information on the Executive Leadership Group's five (5) recommended priorities for City Council consideration for the 2019 Workplan. Public Works Director/City Engineer Mercurio and Community & Economic Development Director Ching gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Strategic Work Plan Focus Areas, ELG Priorities, (1) Improve Public Safety, (2) Enhance Community Resilience, (3) Economic Development and Diversification, (4) Expand Housing Options, and (5) Build a Healthy Community.

Mr. Ibarra identified the hot topics that were identified during pre-session interviews with the Mayor and Councilmembers, which included:

City Beautification

- City Image and Presentation
- Control Litter Control/Illegal Dumping
- RWJF “Culture of Health” Prize

Economic Development

- Affordable Housing Programs
- College and Career Readiness Programs
- Economic Diversification
- Workforce Development/Job Training/SPEDC

Public Safety

- Community Policing Programs/SROs
 - Need to continue with the programs; SROs are appreciated by the parents and staff in the schools
- Pedestrian and Traffic Study
 - Needs for better street lighting, ensure street lights/pedestrian lights are working; challenges of lack of equipment for traffic safety

Quality of Life

- Enhance City Services & City Engagement
 - Environmental Programs & Renewable Energy Programs
 - Health Care & Emergency Care/LifeLong Partnership
 - Homelessness
 - Promote Ethnic Diversity/Multi-Cultural Events & Programs
- City Manager Rodriguez stated he needs to look at the budget if City Council wishes to pursue additional events and programs; Community Services Director Dwyer explained how Community Services continues to reach out to other ethnic groups for the 4th of July event, and stated that the Senior Center holds events that are multi-culture oriented such as Black History Month.

A 10-minute break was taken at 3:40pm.

Strategic Plan

Facilitator Ibarra assisted the group in identifying the specific goals and priorities by the City Council for 2019 and into 2020. City Manager Rodriguez presented and defined the ELG Priorities:

1. Improve Public Safety
 - It was requested that additional cameras be placed in blighted neighborhoods
2. Enhance Community Resilience
 - This includes renewable energy.
3. Focus on Economic Development and Diversification
4. Expand Housing Options
 - By unanimous voice vote, the City Council agreed to continue to explore housing assistance.

5. Build a Healthy Community

By unanimous voice vote, the City Council agreed to continue developing multi ethnic awareness and appreciation activities. City Manager Rodriguez added as long as it is a broad goal. It was also requested and approved by the City Council to add education to this category.

It was further unanimously voted by the City Council to add “foster strong relationships with the School District.”

Facilitator Ibarra asked the City Council about prioritization/sequencing the priorities and Mayor Kinney replied to move forward as far as they can and then proceed to the next.

City Manager Rodriguez confirmed that the top five (5) major policy goals will replace those old nine priorities, that he would revise the Council Priority Workplan, delete the completed items. It was moved by Mayor Kinney, seconded by Councilmember Xavier, and unanimously approved to revise the top priorities with modifications as stated by City Manager Rodriguez.

Mayor Kinney thanked staff for their work, and City Manager Rodriguez thanked Mr. Ibarra for his work as well.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lehny M. Corbin, Deputy City Clerk

Rich Kinney, Mayor