



CITY OF MONTEBELLO
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 AT 5:30 P.M.

**CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1600 WEST BEVERLY BOULEVARD
MONTEBELLO, CALIFORNIA 90640**

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Members present were Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne, Mayor Pro Tem Torres, Councilmember Jimenez, Councilmember Melendez, and Councilmember Peralta. City Clerk Jimenez and Treasurer Gutierrez were also present.

STAFF PRESENT – City Attorney Arnold Alvarez-Glasman, City Manager René Bobadilla, Assistant City Manager Arlene Salazar, Deputy City Clerk Alicia Fernandez, Assistant to Deputy City Clerk Kimberly Guillen.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS (30 MINUTES)

City Clerk's Office acknowledged two (2) public comments submitted to the City's public comment email address. Said comments are on file at the City Clerk's office.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne recessed into closed session at 5:38 p.m. to consider the following closed session items:

1. THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OR FACILITIES

Government Code Section 54957

Consultation with City Manager, Police Chief, City Attorney and other related City officials.

2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)

Agency Negotiators: René Bobadilla

Significant exposure to litigation in one matter which facts and circumstances need not be disclosed under Government Code Section 54956.9(e)

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne reconvened the meeting at 6:35 p.m. During Closed Session the City Council received a briefing and presentation on Items 1 and 2; no final action was taken, nothing further to report. City Attorney also notated that Agency Negotiators from Item No. 2 should be deleted.

OPEN SESSION**PRESENTATIONS**

3. **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT/CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS OVERVIEW AND DISCUSSION** – Presented by Director of Finance, Michael Solorza where he provided the City Council an overview of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF), unmet needs, planned projects, and the next steps.

Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne motioned to approve the recommended use of CSLFRF for the project categories of IT Network Backbone for \$4,100,000; IT Productivity Software for \$1,500,000; Fleet Replacement/Upgrades for \$6,850,000; and Sewer Maint/Capital Repairs for \$4,150,000, as listed on page 28 of the presentation, seconded by Councilmember Melendez; motion approved unanimously.

4. **ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM ORDINANCE** – Presented by Planning Manager, Jessica Serrano, where she provided an overview on the public process, the proposed Art in Public Places Program, examples of public artwork, proposed Art in Public Places Advisory Committee, the fee structure as originally proposed, and a fee structure revised per City Council direction.

Councilmember Jimenez suggested holding off on this project.

Councilmember Melendez suggested having a conversation with the City's Chamber of Commerce on how this project would impact the business communities. He also suggested holding off until more feedback is received from community.

Mayor Pro Tem Torres expressed his concerns about the fee impacts on businesses and the possibility of how the fees can be relieved. He stated that he would be supporting moving forward with this item if City Council can decide on the two issues he expressed.

Councilmember Peralta agreed that although there is a concern about the fees, she is open to taking a look at the way the fees can be restructured or working with waiving fees for those that will be impacted negatively with the fees. She is in support of moving forward with this project.

Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne expressed her concerns about burdening businesses with the fees and recommended tabling this item.

Councilmember Melendez made a motion to table this item for further discussion at a later date once staff can present further information, seconded by Councilmember Jimenez; motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Cobos-Cawthorne adjourned the meeting in memory of the 13 brave American soldiers who were killed overseas in an attack. The soldiers are as follows:

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. David Espinoza, 20, of Rio Bravo, TX

Marine Corps Sgt. Nicole Gee, 23, of Roseville, CA

Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Darin Taylor Hoover, 31, of UT

Army Staff Sgt. Ryan Knauss, 23, of Corryton, TN

Marine Corps Cpl. Hunter Lopez, 22, of Indio, CA

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Rylee McCollum, 20, of Jackson, WY

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Dylan R. Merola, 20, of Rancho Cucamonga, CA

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Kareem Nikoui, 20, of Norco, CA

Marine Corps Cpl. Daegan William-Tyler Page, 23, of Omaha, NE

Marine Corps Sgt. Johanny Rosario, 25, of Lawrence, MA

Marine Corps Cpl. Humberto Sanchez, 22, of Logansport, IN

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jared Schmitz, 20, of Wentzville, MO

Navy Hospital Corpsman Max Soviak, 22, of Berlin Heights, OH

Councilmember Jimenez motioned to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2022 ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 23RD DAY OF FEBRUARY 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alicia Fernandez', is written over a horizontal line.

Alicia Fernandez, Deputy City Clerk

CLOSED SESSION COMMENTS

Guillen, Kimberly (Admin)

From: mde4peace <mde4peace@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 10:56 AM
To: comment, ccpublic
Subject: Public Comments for Special City Council Meeting, September 1, 2021-

Submitted 10:55 a.m. September 1, 2021

To: City Council, city staff et al

From: Margot Eiser, resident. Contact information already on file and utilized.

Re: Comments to be read aloud and entered into the public record. Because of current circumstances limiting access to communication, getting direct responses to each would be appropriate and appreciated.

Re:

Closed Session Item 1

Please let us the citizens, people, residents, tax payers, voters know what besides the one I brought up last time, are the other ongoing threats to OUR public services and facilities which you are again discussing in closed session.

Closed Session Item 2

Objecting that no information is given about this matter and the reason for the alleged threat of litigation. I am concerned because though it could result in negative consequences for us the people, it is being discussed and negotiated in closed session by a highly paid city employee instead of by you, the city council, who are supposed to represent us, the people! The agenda of a previous city council meeting of the city of Los Altos, California, indicates that the City Council itself were the ones to deal with this specific issue and other closed session items. We need to know the subject of the discussion in our city and have input on how it is resolved.

PLEASE DO NOT CLICK ON UNKNOWN LINKS. Contact Montebello IT Division if you are unsure.