



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SOLVANG CITY COUNCIL

Council Chambers
1644 Oak Street
Solvang, CA 93463

January 28, 2019
Monday
6:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Toussaint called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mayor Toussaint, Council Members Clarke, Djernaes, Johnson, and Waite

STAFF: Rick Haydon, Interim City Manager; Dave Fleishman, City Attorney; Matt van der Linden, Public Works Director; Sandra Featherson, Administrative Services Director; Holly Owen, Planning & Economic Development Director; Fred Lageman, Parks & Recreation Director; Lt. Eddie Hsueh; and Lisa S. Martin, City Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Led by Boy Scout Troop 41

PTESENTATION

Solvang Conference & Visitors Bureau Year End Report

1. **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS – WRITTEN OR VERBAL**

Dave Watkins, Boy Scout Troop Leader

- Supports the Christmas Tree Burn as it also gives the scouts an opportunity to give a proper ceremonial retirement to many US flags that they collect throughout the year

Caroline Abate

- Spoke in opposition of abortion

Esther Jacobsen-Bates, Elverhoj Museum

- Gave update on museum activities
- Encouraged a vibrant relationship with our sister city, Aalborg, Denmark

2. **COUNCIL REQUESTS**

Councilmember Djernaes requested that staff make available the State of the City presentation to the residents.

3. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY COUNCIL**

In response to correspondence from Scott Love, Councilmember Waite asked that the Public Works Director look at correcting the problem of people parking in the bike lane on Alamo Pintado Road near Nielsen's.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Agenda as Presented
- b. Approval of draft Minutes of the January 8, 2019 Special Meeting
- c. Receive and File Sheriff's Department Community Resources Officer's report for Dec 2018
- d. Notice of Completion, Valve Replacement Project
Accept the Valve Replacement, Fire Hydrant and Sewer Line Trench Repair Project, PW 119, as complete; and direct the City Manager to record the Notice of Completion
- e. Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Update
Adopt Resolution No. 19-1071, approving and adopting the Santa Barbara Countywide 2019 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Update dated January 2019

Council Member Djernaes pulled item 4e for discussion.

Motion by Council Member Clarke to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item 4e, seconded by Council Member Waite, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

Council Member Djernaes indicated his questions related to the rule of law behind the item. SB 1000 apparently creates an economic impact to the city. He asked that staff look into the impact on our ratepayers.

Public Works Director van der Linden responded that staff could bring back more information on potential subsidies proposed by the senate bill.

Council Member Waite questioned whether the Groundwater Sustainability Agency had any involvement with this plan.

Public Works Director van der Linden responded that that the only commonality is that agency may also have project(s) in the update, in order to receive grant funding.

Council Member Johnson asked if we had spent \$50,000 for a grant application that could potentially end up not being awarded.

Matt van der Linden answered affirmatively, but explained that the program is supposed to award grants equitably throughout the County and that he has been working for several years to get funding for our Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade. It is a project that benefits multiple communities/agencies and with the Santa Ynez Community Services District expressing support, it is now near the top of the list because it is a strong project.

Motion made by Council Member Djernaes to approve Consent Agenda item 4e, seconded by Council Member Waite, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. JULEFEST CHRISTMAS TREE BURN

Staff report by Fred Lageman, Parks & Recreation Director.

Mayor Toussaint opened the item to public comment at 7:25 p.m.

Tracy Farhad, Solvang Conference & Visitors Bureau

- It is a great public relations event drawing over 2,000 residents and visitors
- Social media conversations have been quite positive about continuing the tradition which is quite unique to Solvang

Hank Homburg, Solvang Resident

- He had 13 guests come up from Santa Barbara to attend the event with his family
- Supports the tree burn and hopes it continues, it brings the community together
- The Fire Department and Parks & Recreation do a great job on the event

Mayor Toussaint closed the item to public comment at 7:28 p.m.

Council Member Clarke enjoys the event very much.

Council Member Waite commented that it has been a Solvang tradition since 1989 and that it has never come up with County Air Pollution Control as a hazardous event. It is part of Julefest and should continue.

Mayor Toussaint agreed.

Motion made by Council Member Djernaes to continue the Tree Burn event, seconded by Council Member Clarke, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

6. OPTIONS FOR MISSION DRIVE BIKE LANES

Staff report by Matt van der Linden, Public Works Director. Cost estimates came in much higher than expected. It will be much more expensive and will require an exception from Caltrans to fit bike lanes and keep parking along the north side of Mission Drive. The project is more easily constructed and cost effective with parking removed from both sides of Mission. Thirty-six (36) public parking spaces would need to be removed on the northern side.

Mayor Toussaint asked how many parking spaces would be gained when new parking lot 5 is constructed. Matt van der Linden responded approximately 30.

Council Member Djernaes questioned if a circulation or traffic flow study had been done regarding this proposal. Matt van der Linden answered that no official study had been performed however, there is some traffic back-up that occurs when people are trying to get into or waiting for someone to pull out of the on-street spaces, so this could be a benefit to flow of traffic.

Interim City Manager Haydon added that since the bicyclists already use Mission Drive, the bike lanes would increase safety by giving them their own lane.

Mayor Toussaint opened the item to public comment at 7:49 p.m.

Ed Skytt, Solvang Resident

- Council should consider option C, table until risks and rewards can be further reviewed
- Safety of bicyclists, pedestrians, and drivers should be considered

Joan Jamieson, Solvang Resident

- Agrees with Ed Skytt, we don't have the funding, table for further review of big picture

Aaron Petersen, Solvang Resident

- If we are going to do this, do it right and get rid of the parking on both sides

- Safety is paramount, there are a lot of different options for bike lanes

Mayor Toussaint closed the public comment period at 8:05 p.m.

Council Member Clarke commented that bike riders don't come here to ride on Mission Drive, and businesses are concerned that they will lose business due to the lost parking spaces.

Council Member Waite would like to wait until the Bicycle Master Plan is complete as it will look at traffic flow.

Mayor Toussaint added that he wasn't expecting the cost.

Council Member Djernaes noted he is a big proponent of cycling, but would rather wait until the study is finalized.

Motion made by Council Member Djernaes to postpone the project until completion of the Bicycle Master Plan, seconded by Council Member Clarke, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

7. GRANT FUNDING POLICY

Staff report by Sandra Featherson, Administrative Services Director. In 2017-18 the amount of the grants awarded (without the SCVB, Chamber, and Library) was 2.7% of general fund revenues. With those entities, the amount distributed was 17% of general fund revenues.

Council discussion ensued regarding the Solvang Chamber grant and contract and the money budgeted for the Conference & Visitors Bureau and the contract for marketing services.

Interim City Manager Haydon explained that it is a common practice for California cities to contract with private marketing firms for CVB services.

Mayor Toussaint opened the item to public comment at 8:28 p.m.

Joan Jamieson, Solvang Resident

- Described the history of Measure Z which passed an increase in the rate of transient occupancy tax
- Granting less than 2% would be going backwards, not doing what we promised to the citizens

Esther Jacobsen-Bates, Elverhoj Museum

- The grant funding the museum receives from the city is essential to the expansion of their services

Mayor Toussaint closed the public comment period at 8:34 p.m.

Council Member Waite commented that we should continue to support the agencies that give the most back to our community, but she realizes that we need to take care of business first and then look at what is left to give out.

Mayor Toussaint stated that he recognizes that the spending has gotten a bit out of control. His priorities are going to be seniors and culture.

Council Member Djernaes agreed that he wanted the funds to focus on agencies that return value to the community.

Mayor Toussaint mentioned the large capital projects looming and would like to see staff begin working from a zero based budget, and believes that some infrastructure costs for enterprise funds like water and wastewater could receive contributions from the general fund.

There is Council consensus to leave the Grant Funding Policy as is and begin the process of accepting applications, although the total amount to be granted will be determined later after a finance committee review of the budget.

8. APPOINTMENTS TO AGENCY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Staff report by Lisa Martin, City Clerk.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Economic Development Committee and whether or not it was a formal subcommittee or ad hoc. It was decided that Council Member Djernaes would serve as the representative on the Economic Development Committee and report back to the Council.

Motion was made by Mayor Toussaint, seconded by Council Member Clarke, to approve the following changes to membership on outside agency boards and committees:

California Joint Powers Authority – Robert Clarke
League of California Cities – Robert Clarke
Solid Waste Task Group – Robert Clarke
Joint Wastewater Committee – Ryan Toussaint and Chris Djernaes
Ad Hoc Water Subcommittee – Ryan Toussaint and Chris Djernaes
Ad Hoc Finance Subcommittee – Ryan Toussaint and Daniel Johnson
Parks & Recreation Ad Hoc Subcommittee – Ryan Toussaint and Karen Waite
Library Ad Hoc Subcommittee – Robert Clarke and Daniel Johnson
SY Band of Chumash Indians Ad Hoc Subcommittee – Daniel Johnson and Chris Djernaes
Indian Gaming Local Benefit Committee – Daniel Johnson

Motion carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

9. BROWN ACT TRAINING

There was Council consensus to continue this item to the meeting of the February 11, 2018 and place at the beginning of the agenda so that members of the public can be in attendance.

10. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (Oral reports: Each Council Member will give oral reports on their activities in relation to the following committee or agencies. In addition, each member may report on items that will be included on the agenda for such committee or agency and seek guidance from the Council as a whole on such items, including on what position to take on behalf of the City)

- Santa Barbara County Association of Governments
Council Member Waite reported that SBCAG and APCD discussions revolved around traffic and emissions.
- Air Pollution Control Board
- Finance Committee
- Joint Wastewater Committee
- Chumash Tribe
- Water Committee

- Joint Wastewater Committee
 - Library Advisory Committee
 - Indian Gaming Benefit Committee
 - League of California Cities
- Council Member Djernaes** discussed his conversation with a solar energy company at the LOCC event which may benefit the wastewater treatment plant project.
- California Joint Powers Insurance Authority
 - EMA Groundwater Sustainability Agency

11. ADVANCE CALENDAR

Informational Calendar – No Action.

12. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Toussaint adjourned the City Council meeting at 9:46 p.m.



Lisa S. Martin, City Clerk