

**CITY OF ESCONDIDO
FEBRUARY 15, 2017
12:30 p.m.
Mitchell Room**

Minutes

Special Meeting of the Escondido City Council

CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the Escondido City Council was called to order at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 in the Mitchell Room with Mayor Abed presiding.

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present: Councilmember Olga Diaz, Councilmember Ed Gallo, Deputy Mayor John Masson, Councilmember Michael Morasco, and Mayor Sam Abed. Quorum present.

Also present were: Graham Mitchell, City Manager; Michael McGuinness, Assistant City Attorney; Dr. Trudy Sopp, Co-Executive Director of the Centre for Organization Effectiveness and facilitator of the work session; City staff and members of the public and press.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

WORKSHOP

Mayor Abed welcomed the participants to the Council Action Plan Workshop and noted that the goal for the day was to establish the work plan for the upcoming two years. Specific goals should be identified and staff will make recommendations for implementation.

City Manager Graham Mitchell shared the value of this meeting in establishing a bridge between City Council policies and staff actions. These policies will drive the City's budget for the next two years.

Facilitator Dr. Sopp noted the history of this workshop. The theme areas identified two years ago are still important and will remain in place. There was agreement on the process issues and discussion guidelines.

Mayor Abed requested a member of the public to lead the Flag Salute.

Graham Mitchell, City Manager, provided an update of the City's General Fund forecast utilizing a PowerPoint presentation. City Manager Mitchell noted the General Fund revenue trends, sales tax trends, and a projected gap in fiscal years 2018-19 and 2019-20 due to the projected PERS rate increases with employer contributions going up by an estimated \$7.3 million or 47% during this 3 year period. The City will be receiving the PERS valuation statement in July, 2017 which will have the projected rate increases specifically for the City.

The City Council's priority categories will remain the same as in the 2015-2017 Council Action Plan. Themes and general priority areas brought forward by Council Members during the individual pre-session interviews were outlined as follows:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Continue focus on existing 35 significant projects, including
 - Downtown redevelopment
 - La Terraza
 - Stone Brewing Hotel Project
- Attract development of Old Palomar Hospital site
- Create regulations for water quality, storm water, and alternative compliance
- Continue development of vision for Library/Grape Day Park
- Consider community surveys to assess satisfaction
- Adopt a Smart City Policy, utilizing social media and enhanced City website
- Adopt a Proactive Economic Development Program to target specific areas

FISCAL MANAGEMENT

- Continue to submit a balanced budget each year, as required by state law
- Consider proactive actions to address the PERS unfunded liability
 - Seek guidance from actuary, John Bartel
 - Explore policy to establish PERS liability retirement reserve fund
 - Collaborate with other cities to request action from Sacramento
 - Explore options such as, hiring freeze and COLA freeze
 - Ensure protection and safety of employees

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT

- Develop a proactive Code Enforcement
 - Establish an educational versus punitive approach
 - Prioritize image and appearance issues
- Continue the Neighborhood Transformation Program (NTP)
- Develop activity areas for youth
 - Design skate spots
 - Improve current skate park
 - Continue the study of BMX track location
 - Study the feasibility of “parklets”
- Improve and maintain current parks
- Consider options for “Sidewalk Completion Projects”
- Synchronize traffic signals
- Consider “Utility Undergrounding” for future Council agenda item
- Review and update the current sign ordinance
- Continue aggressive graffiti removal
- Continue to improve Escondido Creek
 - Create a Master Specific Plan
- Continue to fund the Citracado Parkway Expansion

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Develop a Strategic Plan for Homelessness
 - Collaborate with other agencies and program providers to discover best practices
- Leverage our current police officers to have more presence
 - Schedule briefing with Police Chief
- Find solutions for gang problem

The City Council requested a final report for approval within 30 days with quarterly progress reports.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Nancy Burian, Escondido, shared concern with code enforcement issues and abatement, motorhomes and landscape vehicles parked on the street.

Margaret McCown Liles, Escondido, requested synchronization of traffic signals.

Patricia Borchmann, Escondido, commented on the previous action plan regarding the Escondido Creek and Conditional Use Permits.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Abed adjourned the meeting at 3:28 p.m. to recess to Closed Session in the City Manager's Conference Room.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK

DEPUTY CITY CLERK

CITY OF ESCONDIDO
February 15, 2017
3:00 P.M. Meeting Minutes

Escondido City Council

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Escondido City Council was called to order at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 in the City Manager's Conference Room at City Hall with Mayor Abed presiding.

ATTENDANCE:

The following members were present: Councilmember Olga Diaz, Councilmember Ed Gallo, Deputy Mayor John Masson, Councilmember Michael Morasco, and Mayor Sam Abed. Quorum present.

Also in attendance: Michael McGuinness, Assistant City Attorney

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

CLOSED SESSION: (COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY/RRB)

- I. **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT PERSONNEL MATTERS (Government Code §54957(b)(1))**
 - a. **City Manager**

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Abed adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Assistant City Attorney Michael McGuinness announced that the City Council agreed to extend the recruitment for the City Manager position for 30 days, until March 15, 2017; to extend City Manager Graham Mitchell's contract for 30 days, until March 15, 2017; and to convene a Closed Session on February 22, 2017 at 9:15 a.m. in the City Manager's Conference Room.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK

DEPUTY CITY CLERK