

City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday April 8, 2024 | 6:00 PM

1. OPENING

1.1. Call to Order

Mayor Blankley opened the meeting in memory of former Council Member and Gilroy's first Mayor, Roberta Hughan who passed away on March 23, 2024.

1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Marques led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3. Invocation

Rabi Debbie Israel led the Invocation.

1.4. City Clerk's Report on Posting the Agenda

Interim City Clerk Minor advised the agenda was posted on Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 3:35 PM.

1.5. Roll Call

Attendance	Attendee Name
Present	Dion Bracco, Council Member
	Rebeca Armendariz, Council Member
	Carol Marques, Council Member
	Zach Hilton, Council Member
	Tom Cline, Council Member
	Fred Tovar, Council Member
	Marie Blankley, Mayor
Absent	None

1.6. Orders of the Day There were none.

1.7. Employee Introductions

Police Chief Espinoza introduced Michael DeFrates, Community Service Officer.

2. CEREMONIAL ITEMS - Proclamations and Awards

2.1. A Proclamation Recognizing April 2024 as Fair Housing Month

3. COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE There were none.

4. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COUNCIL

4.1. Annual City Historian Presentation to the Council

City Historian Toby Echelberry provided an update on his efforts.

4.2. PUBLIC COMMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA BUT WITHIN THE SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Blankley opened Public Comment.

Richard Legends spoke about the opening of Covale Rooftop Bar and Restaurant in downtown Gilroy.

Ron Kirkish spoke regarding ABAG Plan Bay Area 2050 report.

Robert Zepeda spoke regarding the taxes that all citizens have to pay.

Mattie Scariot provided information on the Poppy Jasper Film Festival.

There being no further speakers, Mayor Blankley closed Public Comment.

5. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Bracco No Report.

Council Member Armendariz reported on attending the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency Governing Board, Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency Implementation Board and the Housing and Community Development and Advocacy Committee meeting. She also commented on attending the City's JEDI training.

Council Member Marques reported on the Gilroy Gardens Park season opening and that attendance was up.

Council Member Hilton provided a report on his attendance at the VTA Policy Advisory Committee and Silicon Valley Clean Energy Authority JPA Board.

Council Member Cline No report.

Council Member Tovar wished Miriam Nelson a happy 100th birthday and spoke about the Poppy Jasper Festival and the work of City Staff to get the banner hung in downtown. He also congratulated local students who were admitted Santa Clara University Undergraduate program and Grad School.

Mayor Blankley spoke about the Poppy Jasper Festival and the filmmakers coming into town for it. Santa Clara Valley Joint Water Resource Committee held their meeting and reported on the progress on efforts to increase the number of places to deliver recycled water. She reported on the VTA tax measure coming in 2026, called SB 1031.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 6.1. Approval of the Action Minutes of the March 18, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting.**
- 6.2. Adopt a Resolution Recognizing April 2024 as Arts, Culture and Creativity Month.**

Council Member Hilton requested Agenda Item 6.2 be removed from the Consent Calendar. Council agreed.

Mayor Blankley opened Public Comment.

There being no speakers, Mayor Blankley closed Public Comment.

MOTION: Approve Consent Calendar Item 6.1.

RESULTS:	PASS: 7-0
MOVER:	Fred Tovar, Council Member
SECONDER:	Rebeca Armendariz, Council Member
AYES:	BRACCO, ARMENDARIZ, MARQUES, HILTON, CLINE, TOVAR, BLANKLEY
NOES:	
ABSENT:	
ABSTAIN:	

MOTION: Approve Item 6.2 Resolution with the original ending beginning with “Now therefore be it resolved that the City Council...”

RESULTS:	FAIL: 5-2
MOVER:	Zach Hilton, Council Member
SECONDER:	Rebeca Armendariz, Council Member
AYES:	ARMENDARIZ, TOVAR
NOES:	BRACCO, MARQUES, HILTON, CLINE, TOVAR, BLANKLEY
ABSENT:	
ABSTAIN:	

7. BIDS AND PROPOSALS There were none.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS There were none.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS There were none.

10. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BUSINESS

- 10.1. Consent to City Contribution Towards Candidate Statement Costs and Adjustment of the Voluntary Campaign Expenditure Ceiling for the 2024 General Municipal Election.**

Mayor Blankley opened Public Comment.

There being no speakers, Mayor Blankley closed Public Comment.

MOTION: To maintain the existing practice of the City of Gilroy, paying half of the candidate statement costs for the 2024 General Municipal Election. Additionally, the Council is recommended to adopt a resolution adjusting the voluntary campaign expenditure ceiling from \$59,250 to \$60,078.

RESULTS:	PASS 7-0
MOVER:	Fred Tovar, Council Member
SECONDER:	Carol Marques, Council Member
AYES:	BRACCO, ARMENDARIZ, MARQUES, HILTON, CLINE, TOVAR, BLANKLEY
NOES:	
ABSENT:	
ABSTAIN:	

Enactment No.: Resolution No. 2024-18

10.2. Evaluation and Consideration of Adjusting Future Mayor and City Council Member Salaries in Accordance with Recent Legislative Changes under SB 329.

Mayor Blankley opened Public Comment.

There being no speakers, Mayor Blankley closed Public Comment.

MOTION: Staff to return with an Ordinance updating Council salaries.

RESULTS:	PASS 7-0
MOVER:	Marie Blankley, Mayor
SECONDER:	Rebeca Armendariz, Council Member
AYES:	ARMENDARIZ, MARQUES, HILTON, BLANKLEY
NOES:	BRACCO, CLINE, TOVAR
ABSENT:	
ABSTAIN:	

10.3. Receive Report and Provide Direction on CDBG Program Year 2024-25 Funding Allocations.

Council Member Armendariz excused herself from this item as she may have financial interest in one of the agencies receiving funds.

Mayor Blankley opened Public Comment.

Ann Peterson thanked Council for the CDBG Funding they have received for Live Oak Adult Day Services.

Linda Phillips requested support for the needs of Sourcewise.

Deanne Everton thank Council for their support of Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley.

There being no further speakers, Mayor Blankley closed Public Comment.

10.4. Consideration of a Potential Public Safety Sales Tax Ballot Measure for the November 5, 2024 Election Ballot.

Mayor Blankley opened Public Comment.

Terence Fugazi expressed his frustrations regarding the City budget and the potential for this tax measure.

Ron Kirkish spoke regarding the need for additional School Resource and Police Officers.

Andrew Lopez stated the Gilroy Police Officers Association would support this tax measure.

There being no further speakers, Mayor Blankley closed Public Comment.

Council provided Staff with direction to move forward with putting together a Public Safety Sales Tax Ballot Measure on the ballot and to bring it to Council on July 29, 2024.

11. FUTURE COUNCIL INITIATED AGENDA ITEMS There were none.

12. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS City Administrator Forbis spoke regarding the programs that the Santa Clara County Office of Diversion and Reentry Services have and their open house on April 18, 2024 on Murray Avenue. He also thanked all those who joined in the cleanup of San Ysidro Park and encouraged everyone to attend the Uvas Creek Cleanup on May 18, 2024.

13. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORTS There were none.

14. CLOSED SESSION

14.1. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS Pursuant to GC Sec. 54956.8 and GCC Sec.17A.8 (a) (2)

Property: City-Owned 536 Acres at Hecker Pass (Including Gilroy Gardens Theme Park), 3050 Hecker Pass Highway, Gilroy, CA (APN's: 810-17-024, 810-17-026, 810-17-029, 810-17-030, 810-17-031, 810-18-002, 810-18-013,

810-19-005, 810-19-007, 810-19-010, 810-19-011, 810-19-014)

Negotiators: Jimmy Forbis, City Administrator; Victoria Valencia, Economic Development Manager

Other Parties to Negotiations: Paul Nakamoto, Bay.Org (DBA Aquarium of the Bay/Bay Ecotarium)

Under Negotiations: Price and terms of payment for sale or lease

14.2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION. Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision

(d) and Paragraph (3) of Subdivision (e) of Government Code Section 54956.9 and Gilroy City Code Section 17A.11 (3) (b), based upon receipt of a written communication from International Association of Fire Fighters. One (1) Case as Defendant

Council unanimously voted to go into the Closed Session.

15. ADJOURN TO OPEN SESSION

Mayor Blankley advised no action was taken and the meeting was adjourned at 9:22 PM.

16. ADJOURNMENT FUTURE MEETING DATES

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were duly and regularly adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Gilroy.

DocuSigned by:

D4244EA57BF7425...

/s/Beth Minor
Interim City Clerk