

**City of Gilroy
City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 2, 2023 | 6:00 PM**

1. OPENING

1.1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Blankley at 6:00 PM.

1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

Pro Tempore Mayor Bracco led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3. Invocation

Pastor Greg Quirke of South Valley Community Church provided the invocation.

1.4. City Clerk's Report on Posting the Agenda

City Clerk Pham reported on the Posting of the Agenda.

1.5. Roll Call

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

1.6. Orders of the Day

There were none.

1.7. Employee Introductions

There were none.

2. CEREMONIAL ITEMS - Proclamations and Awards

2.1. Proclamation Proclaiming October 2023 as The Great Shakeout

Mayor Blankley read aloud the proclamation and presented it to Emergency Services & Volunteer Coordinator Andrew Young.

3. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COUNCIL

3.1. Presentation from Silicon Valley Clean Energy

Adam Selvin, Director at Silicon Valley Clean Energy of Silicon Clean Energy, provided the presentation.

3.2. 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.

The following members spoke on items that were not on the agenda.

Paul Dommert, Jr. championed a disc golf course at Christmas Hill Park, noting the sport's accessibility and community spirit.

Ron Kirkish expressed concerns about hybrid meeting disruptions, referencing issues in other cities and emphasizing a need for a deliberate Council approach.

Gregory Felios promoted "Coffee with the Mayor" on October 7th, underscoring it as a chance for community dialogue with the Gilroy Unified School District superintendent.

No further speakers present, Mayor Blankley closed Public Comment.

4. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Bracco had nothing to report.

Council Member Armendariz shared updates from South County United for Health and highlighted the 7th Annual Tamal Festival and Car Show held last Saturday.

Council Member Marques reported on the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency Governing Board and Gilroy Gardens Board of Directors.

Council Members Hilton and Cline acknowledged the success of the recent 7th Annual Tamal Festival and Car Show.

Council Member Tovar reported on the Downtown Committee,

Mayor Blankley reported on CalTrain Policy Group, VTA Board of Directors, and VTA Mobility Partnership Committee.

5. COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE

There were none.

6. FUTURE COUNCIL INITIATED AGENDA ITEMS

There were none.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

Motion: Approve the Consent Calendar

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Fred Tovar, Council Member

SECONDER: Carol Marques, Council Member

AYES: Council Member Armendariz, Mayor Pro Tempore Bracco, Council Member Cline, Council Member Hilton, Council Member Marques, Council Member Tovar, Mayor Blankley

7.1. Approval of the Action Minutes of the September 18, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes.

7.2. Claim of Jose Aaron Munoz (The City Administrator recommends a "yes" vote under the Consent Calendar shall constitute denial of the claim)

A motion was made to deny the claim.

8. BIDS AND PROPOSALS

There were none.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9.1. Proposed Tentative Parcel Map to subdivide two developed commercial lots located at 6955 Camino Arroyo into seven parcels, Application No. TM 23-01

Mayor Blankley asked the Council if they had received an ex-parte communication. None were reported.

Planner II Melissa Durkin provided staff presentation and responded to Council Member questions.

Mayor Blankley opened the Public Hearing at 6:30 PM. There being no speakers, Mayor Blankley closed the Public Hearing at 6:30 PM.

Motion: Based on its independent analysis, determines that the proposed project is exempt from further environmental review by State CEQA Guidelines section 15061 (b), the "common sense" exemption because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, and adopt a resolution approving the proposed tentative parcel map to subdivide the property known as APN 841-17-045 and 841-17-036 into seven separate parcels.

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Tom Cline, Council Member

SECONDER: Rebeca Armendariz, Council Member

AYES: Council Member Armendariz, Mayor Pro Tempore Bracco, Council Member Cline, Council Member Hilton, Council Member Marques, Council Member Tovar, Mayor Blankley

Enactment No.: Resolution No. 2023-57

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10.1. Appointments to City Boards, Commissions, and Committees with Seats Vacant or Expired as of September 18, 2023

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

The council appointed the following members:

Akur Varadarajan to the Open Government Commission with a term ending December 31, 2024.

Dale Davis to the Parks and Recreation Commission with a term ending

December 31, 2025.

10.2. Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative Update

Police Sergeant Toney and Communications Manager Bedell provided staff presentation and responded to Council Member questions.

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

Council received the report and directed staff to have the consultant present their findings at a future Council meeting.

11. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BUSINESS

11.1. Receive Preliminary Fiscal Year 2022-23 (FY23) Year-End Financial Report

Finance Director Sangha provided staff presentation and responded to Council Member questions.

Mayor Blankley opened Public Comment.

Ron Kirkish expressed concerns about the city's current and future revenues, urging the Council to prioritize spending and scrutinize expenditures.

There being no speakers, Mayor Blankley closed Public Comment.

Motion: Motion to approve \$225,000 to be transferred to the Section 115 Pension Trust, pursuant to the Pension Funding Policy.

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Fred Tovar, Council Member

SECONDER: Rebeca Armendariz, Council Member

AYES: Council Member Armendariz, Mayor Pro Tempore Bracco, Council Member Cline, Council Member Hilton, Council Member Tovar, Mayor Blankley

NAYS: Council Member Marques

11.2. Discussion and Direction Regarding Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) Section 115 Trust and Funding

Finance Director Sangha provided staff presentation and responded to Council Member questions.

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

Motion: Adopt a resolution establishing a Section 115 Trust for Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB), approving a one-time contribution to the Section 115 OPEB Trust of \$0.5 million from the General Fund balance (reserves), and approving an OPEB Funding Policy, with the addition Council to address the split between the OPEB and pension in equal percentages to their respective unfunded balances.

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Marie Blankley, Mayor

SECONDER: Rebeca Armendariz, Council Member

AYES: Council Member Armendariz, Mayor Pro Tempore Bracco, Council Member Cline, Council Member Hilton, Council Member Marques, Council Member Tovar, Mayor Blankley

Enactment No.: Resolution No. 2023-58

12. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

12.1. Know Your Code

12.2. E-newsletter Mailbag

12.3. Love Gilroy/Fight Dirty

City Administrator Forbis provided the City Administrator's Report.

13. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORTS

City Attorney Faber provided the City Attorney's Report.

14. CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Blankley opened Public Comment.

Richard Perino recounted a 2006 house fire experience, critiqued response times, and pushed for fire department funding.

Mike Sterner appealed to improve fire department staffing and address retention issues related to the CalPERS system.

Steven Hayes highlighted the urgent staffing need at Santa Teresa station, emphasizing response times and urging action for optimal emergency outcomes.

Matt Tuttle emphasized a widespread staffing issue across county fire departments, urging Gilroy officials to prioritize fire station staffing.

Christopher Cobillas advocated for continuous staffing at the Santa Teresa Station and emphasized its role in emergency preparedness.

Kim Kurtis highlighted the critical need for funding and staffing fire departments amidst Gilroy's growth.

Jason Lucero raised concerns about inconsistent staffing and resources at the Santa Teresa Fire Station and questioned city transparency.

Bob Weaver criticized discrepancies in response times and safety issue communication in the Santa Teresa district.

Jim Blean spoke on the impact of fire station proximity on insurance rates and proposed consistent and strategic fire station staffing.

Ron Kirkish criticized Glen Loma developers for delaying a fire station and suggested stringent council actions to ensure developer compliance.

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

Mayor Blankley recessed the Regular Meeting at 8:40 PM.

The City Council reconvened into Closed Session at 8:45 PM.

The vote to stay in Closed Session was unanimous.

- 14.1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS - COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT** Pursuant to GC Section 54957.6 and GCC Section 17A.11 (4); Collective Bargaining Units: Local 2805, IAFF Fire Unit Representing Gilroy Fire Fighters
City Negotiators: Jimmy Forbis, City Administrator, LeeAnn McPhillips, HR Director
Anticipated Issues(s) Under Negotiation: Wages, Hours, Benefits, Working Conditions; Memorandums of Understanding: City of Gilroy and Gilroy Fire Fighters Local 2805.

No reportable action.

15. ADJOURN TO OPEN SESSION

Mayor Blankley reported out of the Closed Session, as shown above.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Blankley adjourned the meeting at 11:02 PM.

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.

/s/ Thai Nam Pham, MMC, CPMC
City Clerk

DRAFT