



## Council Minutes

November 19, 2024, 5:30 p.m.  
Council Chambers, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo

Council Members Present: Council Member Emily Francis, Council Member Jan Marx, Council Member Michelle Shoresman, Vice Mayor Andy Pease, Mayor Erica A. Stewart

City Staff Present: City Manager Whitney McDonald, Christine Dietrick, City Attorney, Teresa Purrington, City Clerk

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### 1. CLOSED SESSION (4:30 PM to 5:30 PM)

#### 1.a CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Erica A. Stewart called Closed Session to order at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Hearing Room at City Hall, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo with all Council Members present.

#### 1.b PUBLIC COMMENT FOR CLOSED SESSION ITEMS ONLY

Public Comments:

None

*---End of Public Comment---*

#### 1.c CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

*Pursuant to Government Code §54956.8*

Property: APN: 053-041-031

Property: APNs: 053-041-066 and 053-041-067

Property: APN: 053-051-033

Property: APN: 053-051-071

Property: APN: 053-181-037

Property: APN: 053-181-038

**ACTION:** City Attorney Christine Dietrick indicated that no reportable action was taken on this item, only direction on price and terms for the negotiation.

1.d CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

*Pursuant to Government Code §54956.8*

Property: APNs: 073-341-034, 073-341-036, 073-341-037, 073-341-038, and 073-341-039

Property: APNs: 076-114-002, 076-114-028, and 076-121-014

**ACTION:** City Attorney Christine Dietrick indicated that no reportable action was taken on this item, only direction on price and terms for the negotiation.

1.e ADJOURNMENT

Closed Session adjourned at 5:35 p.m. The City Council held a Regular Meeting on November 19, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo.

**2. CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the San Luis Obispo City Council was called to order on November 19, 2024 at 5:40 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, by Mayor Stewart.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Erica A. Stewart led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

4.a CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Whitney McDonald provided a report on upcoming projects.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Public Comment:

Shelby West

Andria McGhee

*--End of Public Comment--*

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

Public Comments:

None

*---End of Public Comment---*

**Motion By** Council Member Marx  
**Second By** Vice Mayor Pease

To approve Consent Calendar Items 6a and 6b.

Ayes (5): Council Member Francis, Council Member Marx, Council Member Shoresman, Vice Mayor Pease, and Mayor Stewart

CARRIED (5 to 0)

6.a WAIVE READING IN FULL OF ALL RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Waive reading of all resolutions and ordinances as appropriate.

6.b CONSIDERATION OF THE 2025-26 HUMAN SERVICES GRANT FUNDING PRIORITIES

As recommended by the Human Relations Commission (HRC), approve the Human Services Grants (HSG) funding priorities for the 2025-26 funding year.

**7. PUBLIC HEARING AND BUSINESS ITEMS**

7.a CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PRE-LITIGATION SETTLEMENT OF CALIFORNIA VOTING RIGHTS ACT DISTRICT ELECTION DEMAND (Estimated Time: 150 minutes)

City Attorney Christine Dietrick provided an in-depth staff report and responded to Council questions.

Public Comments:

Steve McGrath

Sean Witt

John Ashbaugh

Chelsea Ruiz

Jim Dantona

Stew Jenkins

*---End of Public Comment---*

**Motion By** Vice Mayor Pease  
**Second By** Council Member Francis

1. Approve a tentative settlement agreement and related settlement documents to resolve the February 17, 2023 California Voting Rights Act District Election Demand (CVRA Demand) served on the City by Kevin Shenkman on behalf of Southwest Voter Registration Education Project (SVREP), including:
  - a. Settlement Agreement
  - b. Draft CVRA Complaint to be filed by SVREP alleging CVRA violations
  - c. Draft City Answer to Complaint denying CVRA allegations
  - d. Stipulated judgment directing transition to Citywide Single Vote Council elections, beginning November 2026
2. Authorize the Mayor, City Attorney and City Manager to execute and file documents and take administrative actions necessary to implement the Settlement Agreement.
3. Appropriate \$75,000 from the Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance to be used for SVREP Attorneys' fees to date as described in the settlement agreement.

Ayes (5): Council Member Francis, Council Member Marx, Council Member Shoresman, Vice Mayor Pease, and Mayor Stewart

CARRIED (5 to 0)

**8. LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**Mayor Stewart**

- Hosted Hawthorn Elementary 2nd grade classes at City Hall with City Manager McDonald and Deputy City Manager Hermann.
- Attended the Governors panel for Transforming California Behavioral Health System: Prop 1 and CARE Act 101 webinar
- Attended the AFP SLO County - National Philanthropy Day luncheon where Anneka Scranton was honored.

### **Vice Mayor Pease**

- Attended San Luis Obispo Council of Government (SLOCOG) & San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority (SLORTA).
- Attended the Lower Higuera Business Visit.
- Attended the Monthly Mayor's Meeting.

### **Council Member Francis**

- Community Action Partnership - Board meeting is this Thursday.
- Nacimiento Water Project meeting was cancelled for this month.
- Attended Los Ranchos Elementary for their Blue Ribbon Ceremony.
- Toured the City's Whale Rock Plant.
- Attended the Lower Higuera Business Visit, hosted by Chamber of Commerce.

### **Council Member Marx**

- Attended the Air Pollution Control District (APCD) on November 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Integrated Waste Management Association closed escrow on a new building, released a Request for Proposals for a Rate Study to try to reduce rates.
- Attended the Lower Higuera Business Visit, hosted by the Chamber of Commerce.

### **Council Member Shoresman**

- Toured the City's Whale Rock Plant.
- Attended the Lower Higuera Business Visit, hosted by Chamber of Commerce.
- Attended REACH Economic Development Forum at Santa Maria Airport
- Attended the World Remembrance Day held by SLOCOG

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the City Council has been *rescheduled* to **Monday, December 9, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall**, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo. Council approved rescheduling the December 3rd Regular Meeting on October 15, 2024, during their review of the [revised schedule of Council Meetings for 2024](#).

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APPROVED BY COUNCIL: XX/XX/2024