



CITY COUNCIL ACTION MINUTES

Special Meeting
June 1, 2021

The City Council of the City of Palo Alto met on this date in virtual teleconference at 5:01 P.M.

Participating Remotely: Burt, Cormack, DuBois, Filseth, Kou, Stone, Tanaka arrived at 6:21 P.M.

Absent:

Special Orders of the Day

1. Proclamation Honoring Gunn High School Football Coach Jason Miller.
Council Member Kou read the proclamation into the record.

NO ACTION TAKEN.

2. Proclamation Honoring Gunn High School Titans Football Team.
Mayor DuBois read the proclamation into the record.

NO ACTION TAKEN.

Study Session

3. Discussion of the Format for Meetings of the City Council and Other Public Bodies Potentially Beginning August 2021.

NO ACTION TAKEN.

Agenda Changes, Additions and Deletions

Mayor DuBois announced Agenda Item Number 9 has been moved to June 7, 2021.

Council took a break at 6:03 P.M. and returned at 6:16 P.M.

Minutes Approval

4. Approval of Action Minutes for the May 17 and May 18, 2021 City Council Meetings.

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MOTION: Council Member Kou moved, seconded by Council Member Filseth to approve the Action Minutes for the May 17 and May 18, 2021 City Council Meetings.

MOTION PASSED: 6-0 Tanaka Absent

Consent Calendar

Council Member Kou registered a no vote on Agenda Item Number 5.

MOTION: Council Member Cormack moved, seconded by Council Member Stone to approve Agenda Item Number 5.

5. SECOND READING: Ordinance 5523 and Ordinance 5524 Responding to State Housing Bills Regarding Density Bonus and Affordable Housing, Environmental Assessment: Exempt Pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) (FIRST READING: May 18, 2021 PASSED: 7-0).

MOTION PASSED: 5-1 Kou no, Tanaka absent

Action Items

6. Approval of the Tri-party Fire Agreement for Foothills Reserve Fire Station Staffing During Fire Season.

MOTION: Mayor DuBois moved, seconded by Council Member Cormack to approve entering into a memorandum of understanding with the Los Altos Hills County Fire District and the Santa Clara County Fire Department to staff Palo Alto Fire Station 8 (Foothills) during wildland fire seasons.

MOTION PASSED: 7-0

7. Discussion on the Scope of Economic Development and Resources Needed for Implementation; and Direction to Staff on the Desired Scope and Goals of Future Investment.

Council took a break at 7:51 P.M. and returned at 8:00 P.M.

MOTION: Mayor DuBois moved, seconded by Council Member Filseth to direct Staff to come back with a proposal for an RFP for an economic development strategy consultant and internal staffing plan to support a connection to the business community with a focus on:

- A. Analysis of shifts in Palo Alto business mix, including clean up and analysis of business registry data;

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- B. Strategies to deal with shifts caused by the pandemic;
- C. Strategies to bolster Palo Alto hotels; and
- D. Additional opportunities to bolster revenue and service local residents.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Council Member Kou moved, seconded by Council Member Stone to:

- A. Hire an Economic Development Staff member to develop an internal staffing plan to support a connection to the business community with a focus on:
 - i. Analysis of shifts in Palo Alto business mix including clean up and analysis of business registry data;
 - ii. Strategies to deal with shifts caused by the pandemic;
 - iii. Strategies to bolster Palo Alto hotels;
 - iv. Additional opportunities to bolster revenue and service local residents; and
- B. Refer to the Finance Committee discussion of the funding source for this position.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION FAILED: 3-4 Burt, Kou, Stone yes

MOTION PASSED: 6-1 Stone no

- 8. Adoption of an Ordinance Establishing Board and Commission Term Limits, Consolidating Recruitment to May of Each Year, and Codifying the Human Relations Commission's Existing Role of Recommending Grant Funding.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Burt moved, seconded by Council Member Stone to approve an Ordinance, with adjustments on policy issues as desired, to amend various sections of the Palo Alto Municipal Code in order to:

- A. Create term limits for board and commission members as follows:
 - i. Three 3-year terms for the Architectural Review Board (ARB), Historic Resources Board (HRB), Human Relations Commission (HRC), Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC), Public Art Commission (PAC), and the Utilities Advisory Commission (UAC);

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- a) Cannot serve more than 9 years consecutively;
- ii. Two 4-year terms for the Planning and Transportation Commission (PTC) and the Storm Water Management Oversight Committee (SWMOC);
 - a) Cannot serve more than 8 years consecutively;
- B. Approve the suggested policy issues regarding term limits, including
 - i. Two recruitment periods with one commencing in January for PTC, HRB, HRC, and ARB with terms beginning in March; and one commencing in August for all other BCCs with terms beginning October;
- C. Effective date of Ordinance would be January 1, 2022
- D. Codify existing duties of the Human Relations Commission.

AMENDMENT: Mayor DuBois moved, seconded by Council Member Cormack to amend the Motion Part B. i. to commence the recruitment for all Boards and Commissions in January with terms beginning in March.

AMENDMENT PASSED: 5-2 Burt, Stone

MOTION AS AMENDED: Vice Mayor Burt moved, seconded by Council Member Stone to approve an Ordinance, with adjustments on policy issues as desired, to amend various sections of the Palo Alto Municipal Code in order to:

- A. Create term limits for board and commission members as follows:
 - i. Three 3-year terms for the Architectural Review Board (ARB), Historic Resources Board (HRB), Human Relations Commission (HRC), Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC), Public Art Commission (PAC), and the Utilities Advisory Commission (UAC);
 - a) Cannot serve more than 9 years consecutively;
 - ii. Two 4-year terms for the Planning and Transportation Commission (PTC) and the Storm Water Management Oversight Committee (SWMOC);
 - a) Cannot serve more than 8 years consecutively;
- B. Approve the suggested policy issues regarding term limits, including:

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- i. Commence the recruitment for all Boards and Commissions in January, with terms beginning in March;
- C. Effective date of Ordinance would be January 1, 2022; and
- D. Codify existing duties of the Human Relations Commission.

MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED: 6-1 Cormack no

9. ~~PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of a Resolution to Suspend Assessments for Fiscal Year 2022 for Downtown Business Improvement District (BID) (STAFF REQUESTS THIS ITEM BE CONTINUED TO JUNE 7, 2021).~~

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned in memory of the VTA shooting victims, their co-workers, and families at 10:40 P.M.

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Beth Minor

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City Clerk

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:

J. D. Blair

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Mayor

NOTE: Action minutes are prepared in accordance with Palo Alto Municipal Code (PAMC) 2.04.160(a) and (b). Summary minutes (sense) are prepared in accordance with PAMC Section 2.04.160(c). Beginning in January 2018, in accordance with [Ordinance No. 5423](#), the City Council found action minutes and the video/audio recordings of Council proceedings to be the official records of both Council and committee proceedings. These recordings are available on the City's website.