

CITY OF VENTURA
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Matt LaVere
Mayor

Lorrie Brown
Councilmember District 6

Erik Nasarenko
Councilmember District 4

Jim Friedman
Councilmember District 5

Sofia Rubalcava, Deputy Mayor
Councilmember District 1

Cheryl Heitmann
Councilmember At-Large

Christy Weir
Councilmember At-Large

Alex D. McIntyre, City Manager
Gregory G. Diaz, City Attorney
Antoinette M. Mann, City Clerk

REGULAR MEETING

MAY 4, 2020

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE STAY AT HOME ORDER AND THE COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH OFFICER DECLARED LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY AND BE WELL AT HOME ORDER RESULTING FROM THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19), CITY HALL IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC. TO FIND OUT HOW YOU MAY ELECTRONICALLY ATTEND THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT PLEASE REFER TO PAGE 2 OF THIS AGENDA.

City Council conducted this meeting in accordance with California Governor Newsom's Executive Orders N-20-20 and N-35-20 and COVID-19 pandemic protocols.

1. CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR SESSION

The San Buenaventura (Ventura) City Council met in Regular Session utilizing WebEx Events Meeting software from various Ventura locations at 4:35 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Councilmembers Nasarenko, Brown, Friedman, Heitmann, Weir, Deputy Mayor Rubalcava and Mayor LaVere (via teleconference/video conference)

ABSENT: None

Mayor LaVere presided.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor LaVere led the pledge of allegiance.

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Manager Alex McIntyre, Parks Recreation & Community Partnerships Director Nancy O'Connor, City Attorney Gregory G. Diaz, Police Chief Darin Schindler and Fire Chief David Endaya provided a COVID-19 Update.

City Manager Alex McIntyre thanked the Executive Team and entire workforce for their hard work during this time.

5. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

City Attorney Gregory Diaz stated City Council had no closed session tonight and there is no reportable action.

6. CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Heitmann requested that tonight's meeting be adjourned in memory of Thomas Patrick Cox, Sr.

8. CONSENT ITEMS – None

11. PUBLIC HEARING ITEM**11A. Adoption of User Fees and Rates for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

The public hearing was opened.

City Clerk Antoinette M. Mann stated the affidavits of publication are in route from the Star and the Public Hearing notice is on file in the City Clerk's office. Due to COVID-19, the Affidavits of Publication are delayed.

SPEAKERS

Presenters	Finance and Technology Director Michael Coon, Fire Marshal Joe Morelli, and City Manager Alex McIntyre
	Consultant Terry Madsen, ClearSource Financial Consulting

DOCUMENTS

Comments-via Email	Carl Morehouse and Judy Alexandre, Ventura Social Services Task Force
PowerPoint	
Supplemental Packet	All Public Communications are listed and posted online

After discussion and input from City Council a question was proposed on continuing the Public Hearing for a week, to allow Staff to respond to questions/concerns address by City Council during the public hearing.

Councilmember Friedman moved the recommendation to continue the public hearing to May 11, 2020.

Councilmember Brown seconded. The vote was as follows:

AYES:	Councilmembers Nasarenko, Brown, Friedman, Weir, Heitmann, Deputy Mayor Rubalcava and Mayor LaVere
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None

City Clerk Antoinette M. Mann declared the motion carried 7-0 to continue the Public Hearing to May 11, 2020.

12. FORMAL ITEMS (continued)

Councilmember Weir seconded. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Councilmembers Nasarenko, Brown, Friedman, Weir,
Heitmann, Deputy Mayor Rubalcava and Mayor LaVere
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

City Clerk Antoinette M. Mann declared the motion carried 7-0.

12B. Final Water Demand Factor Study**SPEAKERS**

Presenters Ventura Water General Manager Susan
Rungren, Ventura Water Assistant General
Manager Betsy Cooper, and Assistant City
Attorney Miles Hogan

Public Burt Handy

DOCUMENT

PowerPoint

Councilmember Weir moved to approve the recommendation to:

- a. Adopt the Final Water Demand Factor Study.
- b. Direct staff to incorporate the revised demand factors from the Final Water Demand Factor Study into application of the Water Resources Net Zero Policy, effective July 1, 2020.

Councilmember Heitmann seconded. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Councilmembers Nasarenko, Brown, Friedman, Weir,
Heitmann, Deputy Mayor Rubalcava and Mayor LaVere
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

City Clerk Antoinette M. Mann declared the motion carried 7-0.

12. FORMAL ITEMS (continued)

12C. Consideration of Charter Amendments Regarding Public Works Contracting

SPEAKERS

Presenters City Attorney Gregory G. Diaz and Public Works Director Phillip L. Nelson

DOCUMENT

PowerPoint

Council reviewed the draft Charter amendments regarding Public Works contracting and provided comments and revisions to staff.

Staff will be coming back to Council in June to adopt all resolutions related to the November 3, 2020 election.

RECESS

City Council went into recess at 8:08 p.m.

City Council reconvened at 8:15 p.m. with all Councilmembers in attendance

12D. Proposed Cannabis Tax Measure

SPEAKERS

Presenters City Attorney Gregory G. Diaz, Assistant City Attorney Megan Lorenzen, Police Chief Darin Schindler, Finance and Technology Director Michael Coon, and Deputy City Manager Barry Fisher

DOCUMENT

PowerPoint

Council reviewed the proposed draft cannabis tax ordinance and provided comments and revisions to staff.

City Council discussed adjusting the ballot measure language. City Attorney Diaz reminded Council of 75-word limit and that staff will be coming back to Council in June to adopt all resolutions related to the November 3, 2020 election.

12. FORMAL ITEMS (continued)

Councilmember Weir moved to propose the amended ballot language as follows:

To fund general municipal expenses, shall the City tax cannabis (marijuana) and hemp businesses at annual rates not to exceed \$10.00 per canopy square foot for cultivation (adjustable for inflation), 8% of gross receipts for retail cannabis businesses, and 4% for all other cannabis businesses, should the City Council legalize them a future date; which will generate an unknown amount of revenue and will be levied until repealed by the voters or the City Council?

There was no second on the motion.

Additional discussion occurred on the proposed ballot language.

Councilmember Nasarenko moved to amend the proposed ballot language as follows:

To fund City services (public safety, roads, parks, etc.), shall the City tax cannabis (marijuana) and hemp businesses at annual rates not to exceed \$10.00 per canopy square foot for cultivation (adjustable for inflation), 8% of gross receipts for retail cannabis businesses, and 4% for all other cannabis businesses, should the City Council legalize them a future date; which will generate an unknown amount of revenue and will be levied until repealed?

Councilmember Weir seconded. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Councilmembers Nasarenko, Brown, Friedman, Weir,
Heitmman, Deputy Mayor Rubalcava and Mayor LaVere
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

City Clerk Antoinette M. Mann declared the motion carried 7-0.

7. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

City Clerk Antoinette Mann read the following names for received electronic communications into the record:

Comments-via Email Cheryl Imp, John Goodwin, Jamie Kohler,
Jeffrey Hereford, Michael Fausset, Taylor L.
Emerson, and Susan Dobson

Supplemental Packet All Public Communications are listed and posted
online

**15. CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS – REGIONAL
BOARDS/COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEES – None**

16. CITY MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS – None

17. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m. in memory of Thomas Patrick Cox, Sr.



Antoinette M. Mann, MPPA, MMC, CRM
City Clerk