



MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

March 23, 2021
City Council Chamber
One Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92606

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Irvine City Council was called to order at 4:53 p.m. on March 23, 2021, in the City Council Chamber, Irvine Civic Center, One Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, California; Mayor Khan presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: 5	Councilmember	Larry Agran*
	Councilmember	Mike Carroll*
	Councilmember	Anthony Kuo
	Vice Mayor	Tammy Kim
	Mayor	Farrah N. Khan

*Via teleconference

Mayor Khan announced that the meeting was broadcast live on Cox Communications Local Access Channel 30 and AT&T U-Verse Channel 99, and livestreamed online at cityofirvine.org; and that in an effort to protect public health and prevent the spread of COVID-19, members of the public had the ability to provide live comments on agenda items using Zoom. Mayor Khan also assured the community that the City of Irvine was adhering to the Governor's Executive Order in the Council Chamber and throughout City Hall by sanitizing surfaces and equipment, as well as wearing face masks.

In addition, Carl Petersen, City Clerk, provided instructions on how to submit live comments via Zoom; and noted that the e-comment feature had been extended for all agenda items, which allowed members of the public the ability to submit e-comments on all agenda items, and would be included as part of the official record and uploaded to the City's website.

Mayor Khan also announced that general public comments for the City Council on items not on the agenda would be considered at approximately 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Mayor Kim led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Pastor Kyung Lee from Saddleback Church Irvine provided the invocation.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Khan asked for a Moment of Silence in memory of the victims of the Boulder and Atlanta shootings.

1. PRESENTATIONS

1.1 *Update on Taking Action to Support a Diverse and Tolerant Community*

Melissa Haley, Deputy City Manager, and Michael Kent, Assistant Chief of Police, presented the staff report and responded to questions.

City Council discussion included: questioning the timeline for rolling out forms to report hate crimes and incidents; inquired about whether the website and forms for reporting hate crimes and incidents would be available in multiple languages; and suggested that the form for reporting hate crimes and incidents be placed on the City's main webpage.

The following individuals spoke in support of the City's efforts to support a diverse and tolerant community:

Jen Chiou, Irvine resident
Melisa Masri, Irvine resident

Kyler Chin, Irvine resident, and Alejandro, also spoke in support of the City's efforts to support a diverse and tolerant community, and in support of a reduction in police funding.

Gary Flora, Irvine resident, expressed concern about threats to white Americans, and spoke in opposition to defunding the police.

Received and filed. No action was taken.

1.2 Presentation by CalVet on the Process and Timeline of the Veteran's Cemetery

Prior to the presentation, Mayor Khan noted that the City had received a letter from an attorney on behalf of concerned Irvine residents pertaining to potential conflicts of interest related to Councilmember Agran and the Veteran's Cemetery.

Jeff Melching, City Attorney, provided a brief summary of the concerns referenced in the letter, noting that he had not had an opportunity to fully review the document as it had just recently been received; and further noted that he had a responsibility under the City's Municipal Code to review all matters related to the Ethic Ordinance and Ethical Public Services Ordinance, and would consult with the FPPC as necessary.

Councilmember Agran noted that he had not been made aware of the letter, and that no conflicts of interest nor any type of impropriety had occurred.

Dave Gerard, Chief Facilities and Business Services Division of the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CALVET), provided an update on the veteran's cemetery feasibility study and responded to questions.

City Council discussion included: noting correspondence received from Senator Tom Umberg related to the Veteran's Cemetery (Cemetery); inquired about the completion of the feasibility study, and whether the City could move forward prior to its completion; requested clarification with respect to federal and state regulations and requirements; discussed the different sites, development and remediation costs, and potential state and federal funding/grants for design and construction costs; questioned which sites were being studied by CalVet; noted the City Council's adoption of the initiative petition on May 12, 2020, selecting the Amended and Restated Development and Agreement (ARDA) site as the preferred site for the Cemetery; discussed next steps; requested clarification of zoning exemptions related to City-owned property; inquired as to whether the golf course could be rezoned for the Cemetery if transferred to the State; reiterated that Assembly Bill 368 specifically called for the study on both the ARDA and the golf course sites; and noted that the City was bound by State law to allow CalVet to complete the study.

City Attorney Melching clarified provisions of the City's Zoning Code and exemptions for City- and State-owned property of such requirements, as well as language contained in the initiative with respect to internal inconsistencies.

The following individuals spoke in support of a Veterans Cemetery in Irvine but in opposition to its location at the ARDA site:

- Sandra, Irvine resident
- Parrisa, Irvine resident
- Rushi Suryadevara, Irvine resident
- Faruk Bhagani, Irvine resident
- Philip Fuchs, Irvine resident
- Deshaun, Irvine resident
- Diane Tran-Kim, Irvine resident
- J.B., Irvine resident
- Camilla Tafreshian
- Raj Partha
- Swetha

The following individuals spoke in support of a Veterans Cemetery at the ARDA site:

- Dr. Kev Abazajan, Irvine resident
- Steve Berger, Irvine resident
- Jane Roschmann, Irvine resident,
- Harvey Liss, Irvine resident
- Gill Nelson, Irvine resident
- Don Geller, Irvine resident
- Patricia Kennedy, Irvine resident
- Michelle Johnson, Irvine resident
- Imelda Aguilera
- Dr. Beverly Jacobs
- Eric Hildebran
- Dee Fox, Irvine resident
- Tom Chomyn, Irvine resident
- Lu Forrest, Irvine resident

714-***-900, Irvine resident, spoke in support of the completion of the CalVet study.

Katrina Stanchfield and Eric Hildebran, Irvine residents, spoke in support of a Veterans Cemetery.

GLFSR, inquired about which entity would determine site selection, and whether costs associated with pre-construction were available for reimbursement.

Received and filed. No action was taken.

INTERIM CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

There was no report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS/COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Kuo provided a brief summary of his recent meeting with State Senator Ming regarding local school districts, concerns raised by residents related to the All American Asphalt plant, green building within the City of Irvine, and pending Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) guidelines and statistics. He also announced that he was recently selected as the president of the Irvine Community Land Trust.

Councilmember Carroll announced that he and Mayor Khan were participants in a subgroup that met with senior representatives from University of California, Irvine (UCI), and that a settlement had been reached regarding UCI medical building construction, mitigation fees, and a plan to build additional housing.

Mayor Khan wished members of the community a Happy Nowruz; made the following announcements:

- March 26 is “Social Emotional Learning Day.” The Emotional Learning Alliance for California is a group that empowers youths to thrive in school and lives by advancing and supporting culturally responsive social and emotional learning program, policies, and practices.
- The City’s Disability Services team received the organization’s 2021 Community Partner Spotlight Award from the Regional Center of Orange County for its efforts to provide inclusive virtual social and recreation programs to individuals with disabilities. After the City’s Sweet Shade Ability Center closed due to COVID-19 restrictions, Disability Services staff developed a virtual activity program to keep participants engaged by leading more than 140 online classes in yoga, art, cooking, and life skills, and held a Drive-thru Winter Festival.
- Runners, walkers, and animal lovers were invited to participate in the Irvine Animal Care Center Virtual 5K throughout the month of April to support animals in need. This year’s event also celebrated the City’s 50th anniversary. Special “5K + 50” bonus activities will be announced through social media during April, giving participants the chance to share what they love about Irvine and the Irvine Animal Care Center. Registration opens this week at irvineanimals.org/5k, and residents have through April 30th to complete the race. Participants are able to enter their four-legged friend to participate. Proceeds will be used to support the shelter and care for animals, including licensing for Irvine residents, pet adoptions, and events.

- March 17, 2021, marked one year since the City issued a local emergency proclamation and took additional steps to protect the community amid the COVID-19 pandemic. City staff worked hard to adapt programs and services so that the City could safely do business and stay connected as a community. Many residents and businesses have shown kindness and compassion, and have taken action to prevent COVID-19 in Irvine.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

Prior to adoption of the Consent Calendar, public comments were received on Consent Calendar Item No. 2.6. See page 7.

ACTION: Moved by Councilmember Kuo, seconded by Vice Mayor Kim, and unanimously carried to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 2.1 through 2.6.

2.1 MINUTES

ACTION:

- 1) Approved the minutes of a special meeting of the Irvine City Council held on February 22, 2021.
- 2) Approved the minutes of a special meeting of the Irvine City Council held on February 23, 2021.
- 3) Approved the minutes of a regular meeting of the Irvine City Council held on February 23, 2021.

2.2 WARRANT AND WIRE TRANSFER RESOLUTION

ACTION:

Adopted RESOLUTION NO. 21-13 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, ALLOWING CERTAIN CLAIMS AND DEMANDS AND SPECIFYING THE FUNDS OUT OF WHICH THE SAME ARE TO BE PAID

2.3 PROCLAMATIONS

ACTION:

- 1) Proclaimed April 2021 as Fair Housing Foundation's "Fair Housing Month."
- 2) Proclaimed April 2021 as "DMV/Donate Life California Month."
- 3) Ratified and Proclaimed March 21, 2021, as "World Down Syndrome Day."

- 4) In Recognition of Turkish National Sovereignty and Children's Day.
- 5) Proclaimed April 2021 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month."

2.4 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR ORANGE COUNTY GREAT PARK TENNIS PROGRAM

ACTION:

Approved a Great Park budget adjustment to increase revenues by \$293,341 and expenditures by \$229,281 in Fiscal Year 2020-21 due to increased demand for tennis instruction at the Great Park.

(Unless otherwise directed by a member of the City Council, the vote on this matter will reflect the prior action of each Councilmember when he or she sat and voted as a member of the Board of Directors of the Orange County Great Park Corporation. However, if a Councilmember is not present at the City Council meeting, his or her vote will be reflected as absent.)

Approved 5-0.

2.5 TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

ACTION:

Received and filed the Treasurer's Report for the quarter ended December 31, 2020.

2.6 FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 SECOND QUARTER BUDGET UPDATE

Kyler Chin, Irvine resident, expressed concern with fund allocations and limited availability of budget workshops; and spoke in support of defunding the police and funding other community programs.

Stephen Coffey, Irvine resident, expressed concern with the City's revenue loss, spoke in opposition to the Public Safety budget, and suggested investing in clean energy.

Marianna Marysheva, Interim City Manager, clarified that there were several opportunities for the public to engage in the budget review process, which included two virtual community meetings, various City Commission public meetings, and information available on the City’s website; and reiterated that the Quarterly Budget report was reviewed by both the Finance Commission and the City Council at public meetings.

ACTION:

- 1) Received and file the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Second Quarter Budget Update.
- 2) Approved a budget adjustment to decrease FY 2020-21 System Development Charge revenue and re-appropriate \$3.15 million funding from CIP #381902, the Walnut Bike Trail Lighting & Landscaping project, to FY 2023-24 due to slowing development activity and impacts from COVID-19.

3. COUNCIL BUSINESS

3.1 COVID-19 SITUATIONAL UPDATE AND DIRECTION TO DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES ON RELEVANT ACTION ITEMS,

Michelle Grettenberg, Assistant City Manager, presented the staff report.

There was no City Council discussion

Pamela Wykoff, Irvine resident, spoke in support of the approximate \$53 million for Irvine from the federal government; and suggested funding be allocated for mental health services.

Kyler Chin and Stephen Coffey, Irvine residents, spoke in support of funding to fight white supremacy and community programs; and in opposition to the police department.

Received and filed. No action was taken.

3.2 ATHLETIC FEE REDUCTIONS AND BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

Steve Stewart, Community Services Superintendent, presented the staff report and responded to questions.

City Council discussion included: inquiring about the fiscal impact associated with providing a full fee waiver for Irvine residents, and partial fee waiver for non-Irvine residents, and decreasing fees until the fall of 2021; and noted the negative impacts on youth sports organization related to the lack of normal playing and participation time.

There were no requests to speak.

ACTION: Moved by Vice Mayor Kim, seconded by Councilmember Kuo, and unanimously carried to:

Approve a General Fund budget adjustment decreasing participation fees by 50% for non-Irvine residents, and a full fee waiver for Irvine residents, for fall of 2020, spring of 2021 and fall of 2021 for Irvine Sports Committee, due to impacts from COVID-19.

3.3 ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO CITY PERSONNEL RULES AND PROCEDURES INCORPORATING A TELECOMMUTING POLICY FOR CITY OF IRVINE EMPLOYEES

Jimmee Medina, Director of Human Resources and Innovation, presented the staff report. Brian King, Deputy Director of Human Resources, was also available for questions.

There was no City Council discussion.

There were no requests to speak.

ACTION: Moved by Councilmember Kuo, seconded by Vice Mayor Kim, and unanimously carried to:

Adopt RESOLUTION NO. 21-14 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE PERSONNEL RULES AND PROCEDURES

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dee Fox, Irvine resident, spoke in opposition to 1) unfounded allegations against Councilmember Agran, 2) Councilmember Carroll's use of taxpayer money, and 3) Orange County Joint Powers Authority Board compensation for staff and methodology for energy use by Irvine residents.

Suyama Budhinayake, Irvine resident, spoke in support of green initiatives.

The following individuals spoke against the expansion of the James A. Musick Jail:

- Michele Musacchio, Irvine resident
- Jacob Reisberg, ACLA Attorney
- Michele Musacchio, Irvine resident
- Hanna Vaderpool
- Felicity Figueroa

- Daisy Ramirez
- Karen Hernandez
- Melisa Masri

Steve Berger, Irvine resident, spoke in support of certain expectations by the City Council and effective leadership.

Kyler Chin and Stephen Coffee, Irvine residents, spoke in opposition to the expansion of the James A. Musick Jail; in support of the creation of an Irvine Green New Deal; and in support of reallocating Public Safety funds to other community programs.

949-***-224 spoke in opposition to misstatements made by Dee Fox.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Vice Mayor Kim, seconded by Councilmember Kuo, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.



CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF IRVINE



MAYOR OF THE CITY OF IRVINE

April 27, 2021