



CITY OF ATASCADERO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

City Hall Council Chambers, 4th floor
6500 Palma Avenue, Atascadero, California

<u>City Council Closed Session:</u>	5:00 P.M.
<u>City Council Regular Session:</u>	6:00 P.M.

COUNCIL CLOSED SESSION: 5:00 P.M.

Mayor Moreno called Closed Session to order at 5:03 p.m.

1. **CLOSED SESSION -- PUBLIC COMMENT – None.**
2. **COUNCIL LEAVES TO BEGIN CLOSED SESSION**
3. **CLOSED SESSION -- CALL TO ORDER**
 - a. **Conference with Labor Negotiators** (Govt. Code Sec. 54957.6)
Agency designated representatives: Rachelle Rickard, City Manager
Employee Organizations: Atascadero Professional Firefighters, Local 3600; Atascadero Police Association; Service Employees International Union, Local 620; Mid-Management/Professional Employees; Non-Represented Professional and Management Workers and Confidential Employees
4. **CLOSED SESSION – ADJOURNMENT**
5. **COUNCIL RETURNS**
6. **CLOSED SESSION – REPORT**

The City Attorney reported that there was no reportable action.

REGULAR SESSION – CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Moreno called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Council Member Bourbeau led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: **By Teleconference** - Council Members Bourbeau, Dariz and Funk, and Mayor Moreno

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Newsom

Others Present: None

Staff Present: **By Teleconference** – City Manager Rachelle Rickard, Administrative Services Director Jeri Rangel, Public Works Director Nick DeBar, Community Development Director Phil Dunsmore, City Attorney Brian Pierik, Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Lara Christensen, and IT Manager Luke Knight

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: By Council Member Funk seconded by Council Member Dariz to:

1. Approve this agenda; and,
2. Waive the reading in full of all ordinances appearing on this agenda, and the titles of the ordinances will be read aloud by the City Clerk at the first reading, after the motion and before the City Council votes.

Motion passed 4:0 by a roll-call vote. Newsom absent.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

A. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. **City Council Draft Action Minutes – April 13, 2021**
 - Recommendation: Council approve the April 13, 2021 Draft City Council Regular Meeting Minutes. [City Clerk]
2. **March 2021 Accounts Payable and Payroll**
 - Fiscal Impact: \$2,214,528.19
 - Recommendation: Council approve certified City accounts payable, payroll and payroll vendor checks for March 2021. [Administrative Services]

Mayor Moreno noted that Item #A-3 was being removed at the request of staff for separate discussion and vote.

MOTION: By Council Member Bourbeau and seconded by Council Member Funk to approve Consent Calendar Items #A-1 and #A-2.

Motion passed 4:0 by a roll-call vote. Newsom absent.

3. **Budget Adjustment for the Atascadero Mall Sewer Condition Improvements Project**

- Fiscal Impact: \$781,000.00
- Recommendation: Council authorize the Director of Administrative Services to allocate an additional \$250,000 in Wastewater Enterprise Fund balance toward the Atascadero Mall Sewer Condition Improvements Project budget (Project No. C2019W02). [Public Works]

City Manager Rickard noted that the allocation listed in the recommendation was in error and the request is for \$325,000 as indicated in the staff report under Fiscal Impact.

**MOTION: By Council Member Dariz and seconded by Council Member Bourbeau to authorize the Director of Administrative Services to allocate an additional \$325,000 in Wastewater Enterprise Fund balance toward the Atascadero Mall Sewer Condition Improvements Project budget (Project No. C2019W02).
*Motion passed 4:0 by a roll-call vote. Newsom absent.***

UPDATES FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

City Manager Rachelle Rickard gave an update on projects and issues within the City.

COMMUNITY FORUM:

The following citizens spoke by telephone or through the webinar during Community Forum:
Geoff Auslen

Emails from the following citizens were read into the record by Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Christensen: Kate Montgomery

Mayor Moreno closed the COMMUNITY FORUM period.

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

C. MANAGEMENT REPORTS:

1. **Draft Strategic Plan and Draft Action Plan Study Session**

- Fiscal Impact: None.
- Recommendation: Council review and provide staff direction on the Strategic Plan Draft and the Draft Action Plan. [Administrative Services]

City Manager Rickard gave the staff report and answered questions from the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The following citizens spoke by telephone or through the webinar on this item: Marty Brown, Heather Branton, Jean Miller, Ellen Beraud, Tasia Trevino, Lee Perkins, Lisa Kania, Vy Pierce, Brenda May, Brenda Mack, Danielle Johnston, Geoff Auslen, and Wendy Lewis

Emails from the following citizens were read into the record by Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Christensen: Zachariah Jackson, Daniel Rich, Monica Schechter, Kathleen Goble, Christina Asdel Cisneros, Dan Cook, Jean Pedigo, and Alson Paff

Mayor Moreno closed the Public Comment period.

The City Council reviewed, discussed, and provided direction to staff on the Draft Strategic Plan and Draft Action Plan.

D. DISCUSSION ITEM: Discussion of COVID 19 issues including oral updates by Mayor Moreno and City Manager Rickard, questions by City Council, public comment and comments by City Council.

1. Coronavirus (COVID-19) update – Mayor Moreno
2. Coronavirus (COVID-19) update – City Manager Rickard

City Manager Rickard provided updates on Coronavirus (COVID-19) and answered questions from the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The following citizens spoke on this item: Brenda Mack

Mayor Moreno closed the Public Comment period.

E. COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The following Council Members made brief announcements and gave brief update reports on their committees since their last Council meeting:

Mayor Moreno

1. Regional Economic Action Coalition (REACH)

Council Member Bourbeau

1. City of Atascadero Finance Committee
2. Integrated Waste Management Authority (IWMA)

Council Member Dariz

1. City of Atascadero Finance Committee

Council Member Funk

1. Design Review Committee
2. Homeless Services Oversight Council

F. INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION AND / OR ACTION: None.

G. ADJOURN

Mayor Moreno adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

MINUTES PREPARED BY:



Lara K. Christensen
Deputy City Manager / City Clerk

APPROVED: May 11, 2021

PUBLIC COMMENT PROVIDED BY EMAIL

COMMUNITY FORUM

SUBMISSION FROM: Kate Montgomery

From: Kate Montgomery <katewave8600@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 8:38 AM

To: City Clerk <cityclerk@atascadero.org>

Cc: Heather Moreno <hmoreno@atascadero.org>; Heather Newsom <hnewsom@atascadero.org>; Charles Bourbeau <cbourbeau@atascadero.org>; Mark Dariz <mdariz@atascadero.org>; susanfunk@atascadero.org

Subject: Community Choice Energy

April 26, 2021

To the Atascadero City Council,

The longer the City of Atascadero postpones allowing us citizens the opportunity to choose Community Choice Energy, the more time I have to learn about it.

And the more I know, the more certain I am that I want the cleaner environment and lower cost of Community Choice Energy for my family.

It's past time for the City Council to fund a staff report and get it done as soon as possible. So that us citizens of Atascadero can make our choice like all our neighboring towns.

Thank you and please move quickly on this issue.

Kate Montgomery
8600 Santa Lucia Avenue
Atascadero CA

katewave8600@gmail.com

C. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

Item C-1

SUBMISSION FROM: Monica Schechter

From: Monica Schechter <monica.schecht60@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 9:41 AM

To: City Clerk <cityclerk@atascadero.org>

Subject: Public Comment for City Council Meeting 4/27

Dear City Council Members,

I would like to highlight three important budget priorities while you consider how to allocate the D20 funds.

1) I'm a strong supporter of the Community Choice Energy (3CE) and would like to advocate for a staff study in early 2022. There needs to be a budget line for the staff study of 3CE. Atascadero has refused to direct city staff to do a report on 3CE, one of the few cities to ignore the benefits and savings 3CE has to

offer. The Paso Robles City Council voted unanimously to embrace 3CE for their city last year. 2) Homelessness/treatment of homeless and supporting ECHO, a proven entity for temporary housing, matching and facilitating training for reentry into the world of work, healthcare and permanent housing. The City needs to continue and expand its support of ECHO financially and with their support for ECHO and emergency warming shelters January-March each year. 3) Input in how the increased funding for the police is spent (a national and local issue)--expanded training for police staff to address mental health issues, de-escalating volatile situations so level of force is moderated to the situation for the entire community.

Thanks for representing the citizens of Atascadero and the residents of North County!

Monica Schechter
North County Resident

SUBMISSION FROM: Dan Cook

From: Daniel Cook <dtcook@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 11:15 AM
To: City Clerk <cityclerk@atascadero.org>
Subject: public comments for tonight's City Council meeting

Council Members;

Please reserve the necessary monies to fund a Staff Report on Community Choice Energy. This study has been put off until early next year due to budgetary issues, and now is the time to provide the funds needed to complete this very important Staff Report.

Thank you,
Dan Cook

SUBMISSION FROM: Jean Pedigo

From: jean.pedigo@yahoo.com <jean.pedigo@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 3:37 PM
To: City Clerk <cityclerk@atascadero.org>
Subject: agenda items for tonight's meeting

Hello

We would like to see the following:

- A Community Choice Energy - 3CE Report. Find the funds and let's get on board like every other city has and enjoy the savings and benefits.
- Can you please address how the increase for police funding will be utilized. We need expanded training of our police staff to address mental health issues (send along social workers for certain calls). More training on de-escalating volatile situations.

Thank you!
Jean Pedigo

SUBMISSION FROM: Alston Paff

From: Alston Paff <alstonpaff@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 3:38 PM
To: City Clerk <cityclerk@atascadero.org>
Subject: Not yet on the agenda going forward?

Atascadero City Council,

I would like to see these two matters, important to me, added as agenda items to be accomplished in the near future:

1. 3CE Community Choice Energy, which would give Atascadero residents a choice in utility providers.
2. The city to move forward as quickly as possible with an SRSO or EMO to protect senior mobile home owners living in mobile home parks in Atascadero.

Thank you,

Alston Paff

SUBMISSION FROM: Zachariah E. Jackson

From: Zach Jackson <zjackson51@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 4:48 PM
To: City Clerk <cityclerk@atascadero.org>
Cc: Casey Bryson <cbryson@atascadero.org>
Subject: Public Comment 4/27/21 agenda item C-1

Good Afternoon,

Please see the attached public comment regarding agenda item C-1 for the Atascadero City Council meeting on 04/27/21.

Thank you,

Zachariah E. Jackson
President
Atascadero Professional Firefighters L3600

Tuesday April 27, 2021

Atascadero City Council
6500 Palma Ave
Atascadero Ca, 93422

RE: Draft Strategic Plan and Draft Action Plan Study session.

Dear City Council,

The Atascadero Professional Firefighters Local 3600 would like to extend our gratitude to the community for their support of Tax Measure D-20. This new funding will allow the fire department to replace aging and inadequate emergency equipment and fire apparatus, maintain a grant-funded firefighter position and replacement of Fire Station 1. These are all critical needs of the department to continue to serve Atascadero the community we all love. Firefighters have experienced several instances in the last year in which failing equipment, inoperative fire engines, and unsafe conditions in an aging fire station presented a challenge to providing expected emergency services as well as causing near-miss injuries to our personnel.

The supplemental budget requests that Fire Chief Casey Bryson has submitted address many of these pressing concerns for your firefighters to continue to provide the level of service we all expect and Atascadero residents deserve. We fully support Fire Chief Bryson in his plan to move the fire department forward by replacing inadequate and failing equipment, replacing aging and unreliable fire apparatus, improving unsafe conditions within the fire stations, and increasing staffing to move closer to the industry standards. It is our hope that we will continue to prioritize public safety and essential infrastructure with D-20 funding as promised to the citizens that voted to pass the tax measure.

We want to thank the City Council for their continued service to our community and we hope to work together in providing a safer Atascadero for all of us.

Thank you and Stay Safe!



Zachariah E. Jackson
President
Atascadero Professional Firefighters L3600

SUBMISSION FROM: Daniel Rich

From: DANIEL RICH <djrich9133@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021 10:03 PM
To: City Clerk <cityclerk@atascadero.org>
Subject: City Council Agenda and recommendations

I respectfully suggest the following priorities:

- 1. Support upgrading the Fire Station on Traffic Way*
- 2. Support ECHO in its effort to assist the homeless with the work they do to provide temporary shelter, meals and also to assist citizens in obtaining permanent housing.*
- 3. Funding and staff to further explore Community Choice Energy to more fully understand future needs and priorities.*
- 4. Investigate Police Department needs, especially as it relates to adequate salaries and staffing levels. Explore adding resources to deal with the public's mental health issues.*

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Daniel Rich

SUBMISSION FROM: Kathleen Goble

From: Kathleen <kathleen.kattol@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 4:24 PM
To: City Clerk <cityclerk@atascadero.org>
Subject: C1: Draft Strategic Plan and Draft Action Plan Study Session

I am happy to see that the city is prioritizing the police department staffing and the fire department needs with D-20 funding.

Thank you for making public safety a priority.

Kathleen Goble,
Atascadero

SUBMISSION FROM: Christina Asdel Cisneros

From: Christina Asdel Cisneros <casdelcisneros@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 4:41 PM

To: City Clerk <cityclerk@atascadero.org>

Subject: Agenda Item C. Management Reports 1. Draft Strategic Plan and Draft Action Plan Study Session

Greetings City Council and City staff. First, I want to thank you for your hard work compiling the Strategic Plan and budget priorities and for going above and beyond to include the public in these conversations. I observed and participated in many of these meetings, and I always felt like my presence and perspective were valued.

Top of mind for me is improving the dynamic between APD officers and our unhoused population. My hope is that the Atascadero Police Department earmarks funds for a CAT team or OUR team. I understand that the APD has been understaffed. I ask that when the staffing holes have been filled, one officer will be paired with a mental health professional to better meet the needs of our unhoused population. Speaking of mental health care: mental health services should be available for our community members as well as for our officers.

I also ask that APD mandates officers take a Crisis Intervention Course so they are better equipped to effectively respond to our community members in distress.

In the Strategic Priorities under Unhoused Population, there seems to be an emphasis on clearing people out and vegetation management. I think the priority should always be finding people housing and services. And services should be rendered by people without a gun whenever possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Christina Asdel Cisneros

Email Received After 5:00 PM on 4/27/2021

From: juanita mcdaniel <juamcd12@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 7:17 PM

To: City Clerk <cityclerk@atascadero.org>

Subject: C1: Draft Strategic Plan and Draft Action Plan Study Session

I would like to thank city staff for the work they put into public outreach to make sure the money from Measure D-20 is used in a way that best represents the community needs. The focus on hiring more staff for the police and upgrading the fire department is the proper use for these funds.

Juanita McDaniel