

**Minutes  
Santee City Council  
Council Chamber – Building 2  
10601 Magnolia Avenue  
Santee, California  
January 27, 2021**

This Regular Meeting of the Santee City Council was called to order by Vice Mayor McNelis at 6:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Vice Mayor Rob McNelis and Council Members Ronn Hall, Laura Koval and Dustin Trotter– 4.

Absent: Due to technical difficulties, Mayor John W. Minto joined the virtual meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Officers present: City Manager Marlene Best, City Attorney Shawn Hagerty, and City Clerk Annette Ortiz

**INVOCATION** was given by Andrea Pickett – The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Vice Mayor McNelis

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- (1) **Approval of Reading by Title Only and Waiver of Reading in Full of Ordinances and Resolutions on the Agenda. (City Clerk – Ortiz)**
- (2) **Approval of Meeting Minutes of the Santee City Council for the January 7, 2021, Special Meeting and the January 13, 2021, Regular Meeting. (City Clerk – Ortiz)**
- (3) **Approval of Payment of Demands as Presented. (Finance – McDermott)**
- (4) **Approval of the Expenditure of \$55,349.10 for December 2020 Legal Services and Reimbursable Costs. (Finance – McDermott)**

**ACTION:** Council Member Koval moved approval of the Consent Calendar.

Council Member Hall seconded the motion, which carried by the following roll call vote: Vice Mayor McNelis: Aye; and Council Members Hall: Aye; Koval: Aye; and Trotter: Aye. Ayes: 4. Noes: 0. Absent: Mayor Minto – 1.

**NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT (15 minutes):**

- (A) Mary Hyder commended the City Clerk's department for organization of the virtual meetings.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- (5) **Appropriation of \$6,000.00 of Funding for San Diego River Cleanup Activities. (Community Services – Maertz)**

The Director of Community Services presented the Item and the responded to Council questions.

**PUBLIC SPEAKER:**

- Sarah Hutmacher, Chief Associate Director, The San Diego River Park Foundation

**ACTION:** Council Member Hall moved approval of staff recommendation.

Council Member Trotter seconded the motion, which carried by the following roll call vote: Vice Mayor McNelis: Aye; and Council Members Hall: Aye; Koval: Aye; and Trotter: Aye. Ayes: 4. Noes: 0. Absent: Mayor Minto – 1.

- (6) **Resolution Approving the 2021 Active Santee Plan and a Categorical Exemption Determination Pursuant to Sections 15301 and 15304 of the California Environmental Quality Act. (Development Services – Kush)**  
**(Reso 008-2021)**

Council Member Trotter registered an abstention, muted his microphone and turned off his camera at 6:42 p.m.

The Director of Development Services introduced the Item and the Principal Traffic Engineer provided a PowerPoint presentation.

**PUBLIC SPEAKER:**

- Mary Hyder

Vice Mayor McNelis urged staff to correlate bike trails with walking trails throughout the City, for safety reasons.

Council Member Hall requested avoiding busy streets like Mission Gorge Road and utilizing back streets for safety reasons.

Council Member Koval urged staff to make children's safety a priority and provide safe routes to the elementary schools; she stated all bus stops should be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compatible.

Mayor Minto urged staff to focus on making the road conditions safe for bicyclists and provide more education on bicycle laws.

Vice Mayor McNelis stated he does not concur with spending money on bicycle education.

Mayor Minto clarified that he would like the City to partner with bicycle shops to provide the education through that outlet.

**ACTION:** Vice Mayor McNelis moved approval of staff recommendation.

Council Member Hall seconded the motion, which carried by the following roll call vote: Mayor Minto: Aye; Vice Mayor McNelis: Aye; and Council Members Hall: Aye; and Koval: Aye. Ayes: 4. Noes: 0. Abstain: Council Member Trotter – 1.

Council Member Trotter rejoined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

**(7) Presentation of the Draft Housing Element 2021-2029 (General Plan Amendment GPA2019-2) and Authorization to Transmit the Housing Element to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). (Development Services – Kush)**

The Director of Development Services introduced the Item and Veronica Tam, Veronica Tam and Associates, Inc., provided a PowerPoint presentation.

**PUBLIC SPEAKER:**

- Mary Hyder
- Jim Moxham

**ACTION:** Vice Mayor McNelis moved approval of staff recommendation.

Council Member Trotter seconded the motion, which carried by the following roll call vote: Mayor Minto: Aye; Vice Mayor McNelis: Aye; and Council Members Hall: Aye; Koval: Aye; and Trotter: Aye. Ayes: 5. Noes: 0.

**(8) Street Right-of-Way Concrete Repair and Replacement Workshop – Consideration of Potential Cost Recovery for Repairs to City Infrastructure Caused by Private Property Tree Root Intrusion. (Development Services – Kush)**

The Director of Development Services introduced the Item and the Principal Civil Engineer provided a PowerPoint presentation.

**PUBLIC SPEAKER:**

- Mary Hyder

Under discussion, the Council concurred and directed staff to bring back a robust option for Council to consider, that addresses the issues.

**(9) Possible Cancellation of a Regular City Council Summer Meeting and the Regular Meeting of September 22, 2021. (City Clerk – Ortiz)**

The City Clerk introduced the Item and responded to Council questions.

**ACTION:** Council Member Trotter moved approval of the cancellation for the July 28, 2021, Regular City Council Meeting.

Vice Mayor McNelis seconded the motion, which carried by the following roll call vote: Mayor Minto: Aye; Vice Mayor McNelis: Aye; and Council Members Hall: Aye; Koval: Aye; and Trotter: Aye. Ayes: 5. Noes: 0.

Mayor Minto requested the possible cancellation of the September 22, 2021 Council Meeting, be brought back in June.

**(10) Appointment of Representatives for Council Committees. (City Clerk – Ortiz)**

The City Clerk introduced the Item and responded to Council questions.

**ACTION:** Council Member Koval moved approval of staff recommendation.

Vice Mayor McNelis seconded the motion, which carried by the following roll call vote: Mayor Minto: Aye; Vice Mayor McNelis: Aye; and Council Members Hall: Aye; Koval: Aye; and Trotter: Aye. Ayes: 5. Noes: 0.

**NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT: (Continued)**

None.

**CITY COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Vice Mayor McNelis urged staff to bring forward information regarding cannabis; he requested Council bring back an item to put forward a letter asking Chair Nathan Fletcher, Supervisor of San Diego County's Fourth District, for an apology and to step down in his position, due to comments he made.

Council Member Trotter stated he visited businesses that were allowed to open after the Governors' Orders were lifted.

Council Member Koval concurred with Vice Mayor McNelis' comments regarding Nathan Fletcher.

Mayor Minto reported on his attendance at the League of California Cities virtual New Mayor's Academy and at the SANDAG meeting.

**CITY MANAGER REPORTS:**

None.

**CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS:**

None.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Date Approved: February 10, 2021



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Annette Ortiz, CMC, City Clerk