

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR Meeting of February 2, 2021

As Approved by the City Council at their regular meeting of February 16, 2021.

The public is advised that pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5 all writings submitted to the City Council are public records and will be made available for review.

Please note that minutes are not verbatim minutes and are meant to be the City's record of a summary of actions that took place at the meeting. City Council video recording are kept for a period of one year from date of meeting.

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Notice: All resolutions and ordinances introduced and/or adopted under this agenda are waived of all reading of entire resolution(s) and ordinance(s).

The Sebastopol City Council welcomes you to its meetings that are generally scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. Your interest and participation are encouraged and appreciated.

SIMULTANEOUS MEETING COMPENSATION DISCLOSURE (Government Code § 54952.3): Members of the City Council receive no additional compensation as a result of convening a joint meeting of the City Council and Successor Agency to the Former Community Development Agency.

SB 751 Legislative bodies of local agencies must publicly report: (1) any action taken and (2) the vote or abstention on each action taken by each member present for the action at a meeting.

\*\*\*[GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20](#)\*\*\*

\*\*RE CORONAVIRUS COVID-19\*\*

CITY COUNCL MEETINGS WILL BE CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS WHICH SUSPENDS CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE RALPH M. BROWN ACT.

*This meeting complies with the Sonoma County Health Officer's COVID-19 Order to Shelter in Place issued on March 17, 2020, and pursuant to California Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020.*

Government Code Section 54953.

(a) All meetings of the legislative body of a local agency shall be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the legislative body of a local agency, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

(b) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the legislative body of a local agency may use teleconferencing for the benefit of the public and the legislative body of a local agency in connection with any meeting or proceeding authorized by law. The teleconferenced meeting or proceeding shall comply with all requirements of this chapter and all otherwise applicable provisions of law relating to a specific type of meeting or proceeding.

(2) Teleconferencing, as authorized by this section, may be used for all purposes in connection with any meeting within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. All votes taken during a teleconferenced meeting shall be by rollcall.

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) ADVISORY

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To protect our constituents, City officials and City staff, the City requests all members of the public to follow the California Department of Health Services’ guidance and the County of Sonoma’s Public Health Officer Order for the Control of COVID-19 restricting group events and gatherings and maintaining social distancing.

Consistent with Executive Order N-29-20, in-person participation by the public will not be permitted and no physical location from which the public may observe the meeting will be available. Remote public participation information is available on the City website.

NOTICE: All Resolutions and Ordinances introduced and/or adopted under this agenda are waived of all reading of entire resolution(s) and ordinance(s).

The Sebastopol City Council welcomes you remotely to its meetings that are generally scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. Your interest and participation are encouraged and appreciated.

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City Council Regular Meetings are available in real time and archived on Livestream. Important Notice The City of Sebastopol shows both live broadcasts and Video Archive of City Council Meetings over the Internet. Your attendance at this public meeting may result in the recording and broadcast of your image and/or voice.

Here is the link: <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>

*There are times that the meetings may not be live streamed due to technical issues; if that is the case, the meeting will be video-taped and uploaded as soon as possible to the City Web Site.*

Anyone using abusive, vulgar, offensive, threatening, or harassing language, personal attacks of any kind or offensive terms that target specific individuals or groups will be muted and removed from the meeting.

**6:00 pm Convene Regular City Council Meeting (ZOOM VIRTUAL FORMAT)**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Glass called the regular meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Mayor Una Glass – By video teleconference  
Vice Mayor Sarah Glade Gurney – By video teleconference  
Councilmember Neysa Hinton – By video teleconference  
Councilmember Diana Rich – By video teleconference  
Councilmember Patrick Slayter – By video teleconference

**Absent:** None

**Staff:** City Manager/City Attorney Larry McLaughlin  
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Mary Gourley  
Administrative Services Director Ana Kwong  
Fire Chief Bill Braga  
Planning Director Kari Svanstrom

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG:** Mayor Glass led the salute to the flag.

Mayor Glass read protocols for the meeting.

**PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS: The following were presented:**

- Proclamation: Declaring the Week of February 1, 2021 to February 7, 2021 as National Gun Violence Survivor Week
- Proclamation: Declaring February as Black History Month

CITY COUNCIL REFERENCE ORDER NUMBER:2021-021

**PUBLIC COMMENT (for items not on the agenda).**

Public comment received to the meeting:

- Kate Haug
- zen Destiny
- Paul Fritz

Katie, Sebastopol Senior Center, commented as follows:

- Wanted to just remind our Sebastopolians that the Senior Center is still open.
- Our building is technically closed, but we're still open for resources or vaccine information for folks who are over 75.
- We're doing meal deliveries and virtual classes.
- Even if you're not a senior, if you have family members who are seniors, you have questions or just need information or resources, the Senior Center offices are open. Our staff is still working.

Linda Berg commented as follows:

- Wanted to thank and congratulate you all, your City has done it again.
- About a year ago, the City Council responded to the citizens, and the residents at the mobile home park.
- They got a petition to keep PG&E Smart Meter's out of there.
- The organizer came before the City Council and a letter was sent off to PG&E.
- The Council helped them prevail.
- Now they are Smart Meters free.
- Thank you very much.
- That would not have happened without the Council's response on this issue.
- Smart Meter's need to be recalled.
- They're dangerous pieces of junk that have to be replaced every five to seven years.
- Now is a great time to recall those because PG&E Smart Meters lack surge protection and grounding.
- When there's a surge that comes on there, they will either explode or melt.
- Want to also thank you very much for what you've done about stopping 5G.
- Discussed T-Mobile.
- Discussed using a third party to go over their very fraudulent permit application which is working beautifully because that is where we need to look at to stop 5G which is another form of violence.
- Discussed this having been used by the military as a weapon until it was unleashed to the public for convenient communication in 1994.
- Recommend all of you take a look at "Generation Zapped." A documentary that came out three years ago.
- The other video that came out about ten years ago that everybody ought to take a look at is "Take Back Your Power."
- Thank you so much for being farsighted and leading people forward.

**STATEMENTS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BY MAYOR/CITY COUNCILMEMBERS FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.** There were none.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Mayor Glass read the consent calendar.

Mayor Glass questioned if any Councilmember(s) wanted to remove any item(s) from the consent calendar. There were none.

Mayor Glass asked for any public comment on the consent calendar items.

Kyle Falbo commented as follows:

- Want to take this time to remind the Council and public that we have a problem with dependence on outside consultation and outsourcing of labor.
- I'm not arguing against the work that needs to be done.
- I'm sure Schaaf & Wheeler would do a fine job.
- It would be my hope that a City that experiences floods as regularly as we do would prioritize the hiring of civil engineers with backgrounds in analyzing floodplains, revising FEMA flood maps, and flood insurance policies.
- The budget subcommittee meeting schedule will remind Council that they're asked to give direction to the budget subcommittee on specific issues that include areas of public concern.
- It's my belief that if the public was made aware of the volume of outside consultation and outsourcing of labor that city staff relies on regularly, it would be more of concern.
- I am urging Council to actively provide direction to the budget subcommittee in the hopes that we will see a balanced budget instead of a continued year of dipping into an already depleted reserve.
- Specifically, I would request direction and provide a publicly accessible and separately recognized section of the budget accounting highlighting the outside consultation and outsourcing of labor spent by the City.
- It's my hope that by shining a light on this aspect of the City's expenditures the City can consider ways in which the labor can be more regularly be performed by existing staff or recognizing needs that may be more economically handled by professional development on the hiring, or the hiring of more permanent staff with the skills being outsourced with such frequency.

Mayor Glass called for a motion.

**MOTION:**

Councilmember Slayter moved and Vice Mayor Gurney seconded the motion to approve Consent Calendar Item(s) Number(s) 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Mayor Glass called for a roll call vote. City staff conducted a roll call vote.

**VOTE:**

Ayes: Councilmembers Hinton, Rich, Slayter, Vice Mayor Gurney and Mayor Glass

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

1. Approval of Minutes of the City Council Meeting of January 19, 2021 (Responsible Department: City Administration)

**City Council Action: Approved Minutes of the City Council Meeting of January 19, 2021**

**Minute Order Number: 2021-022**

2. Approval of Consulting Firm (Schaaf and Wheeler) for investigating and evaluating potential methods for providing flood protection for the SCCC, cost Not-to-Exceed \$14,070 (Responsible Departments: City Engineer and Building Official)

**City Council Action: Approved Consulting Firm (Schaaf and Wheeler) for investigating and evaluating potential methods for providing flood protection for the SCCC, cost Not-to-Exceed \$14,070**

**Minute Order Number: 2021-023**

3. Approval of Extension of Emergency Proclamation of Local Emergency (COVID-19) issued by the Director of Emergency Services (Responsible Department: Fire Chief)

**City Council Action: Approved Extension of Emergency Proclamation of Local Emergency (COVID-19) issued by the Director of Emergency Services**

**Minute Order Number: 2021-024**

**Resolution Number: 2021-6327**

4. Approval of Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget Sub-Committee Meeting Schedule (Responsible Department: Administrative Services)

**City Council Action: Approved Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget Sub-Committee Meeting Schedule**

**Minute Order Number: 2021-025**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS:** (Please Note: Although informational/presentations items are routinely informational in nature, some informational items may contain request for actions such as support, direction to staff, follow up, or receipt of item based on the presentation/information provided.) **NONE**

**PUBLIC HEARING(s):** **NONE**

**REGULAR CALENDAR AGENDA ITEMS (DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION):**

5. Discussion and Consideration of Ned Kahn Revised Art Proposal: Item is to receive the presentation and discuss and consider approval by minute order the new concept and site and authorize staff to execute a contract amendment with Ned Kahn to reflect the revised location, concept, and timeline. (Responsible Department: Planning)

Planning Director Svanstrom presented the agenda item recommending the City Council discuss and consider the Ned Kahn Revised Art Proposal: Item is to receive the presentation and discuss and consider approval by minute order the new concept and site and authorize staff to execute a contract amendment with Ned Kahn to reflect the revised location, concept, and timeline.

Ned Kahn made a presentation to the City Council and made the following comments:

- This site is this hillside looking down on the Community Center, where Morris goes around the turn.
- As Director Svanstrom mentioned, the sculpture that we're currently proposing is very easily movable.
- It has no concrete footings.
- It essentially has a wide base that gets slightly buried under the ground.
- It could be tried in different locations.
- We could try it here and if there's issues or people don't like it or there's a better location, we can move it.

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- It Could even be something that stays in one location for six months and then moves to another one.
- It was intended to be fluid as far as its siting.
- Showed slides of the sculpture.
- It's about a 30-foot-tall, twisted column and it's hollow.
- It has a stainless-steel frame and there's a stainless-steel base that would be, as I mentioned, buried under the ground.
- The skin of it is a fine lattice work of thin polycarbonate hinge elements that move in the wind.
- It was inspired by eucalyptus tree leaves moving in the wind. There's a stainless steel cable net stretched across the facets, the faces of these twisted cubes are attached to every horizontal section of that cable net which is this silvery-gray polycarbonate hinge panel that sways in the wind.
- There is a sculpture using this exact same kind of kinetic surface that's currently installed at the future site of Hotel Sebastopol.
- Discussed the view from the front of the City building at their parking lot.
- Discussed the view as you're wrapping around Morris street.
- Discussed the leaves - the hinged leaves are very reflective for color and light from the sky.
- There's gaps in between them that allow you to see into the structure and see the kinetic membrane on the other.
- The sculpture has an exterior dynamic and also an interior dynamic.
- If anyone would like a personal tour of the sculpture garden I'm working on, feel free to contact me. I'd be happy to meet you out there and give you a tour.
- Of all the different kinds of wind animated surfaces that I've developed over the years, this is the most sensitive, the most subtle in its movement, and porous to wind and light.
- The idea of the proposed sculpture is that it's this twisted column that's essentially a register of the atmosphere. Whatever the atmosphere of the Earth is doing, the sculpture reveals it. It's all part of my philosophical intent of awakening people to how beautiful and interesting the air is.
- The kind of sensory appreciation for the atmosphere that people might have because the air is invisible.

Mayor Glass asked for questions of staff.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- It's great to have you back and hopefully this time we'll get your beautiful sculpture installed.
- Can you tell us a little bit more about the dimensions?
- You mentioned that it was 30 feet high.
- I'm trying to get a sense of how wide or deep it is.

Mr. Kahn commented as follows:

- The idea is that it's going to be fabricated out of seven cubes and each cube is about 4 feet by 4 feet by 4 feet.
- It's 4 feet wide, and 4 feet deep.
- Each cube is almost like you twisted it so each cube follows this crease structure.

Vice Mayor Gurney questioned if this means the base is 4 by 4?

Mr. Kahn commented as follows:

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- The base where it touches the ground is 4 foot by 4 foot but there's much longer stainless steel "I" beams that extend out about 20 feet in total.
- Those create a very wide footing.
- It makes it impossible to fall over in a storm, it spreads out the load.
- It functions as a concrete footing would but without having to pour concrete.

Vice Mayor Gurney questioned what is an "I" beam.

Mr. Kahn commented as follows:

- It's a steel beam with a profile that is like the letter "I".
- It's an extremely strong structural piece of steel, but it will be buried in the ground.
- You dig a channel, you drop them in, and then you mount the sculpture on top of them.
- Twenty Feet Long in a spiral pattern.
- The next step is to have my engineer's do official stamped drawings and have the City's engineers corroborate all that.
- This will be a well-documented and safe thing.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented that she was trying to get a sense of how much space in the dirt would need to be cleared around it.

Marghe Mills Thysen commented as follows:

- There were several different locations discussed and Mr. Kahn had the whole list and reasons why each one was not accepted for different reasons and different organizations.
- It was a lot of work.
- The Morris street location was discussed and accepted by the PAC.
- This design is actually the closest to the original design except now, of course, it's a spiral.
- Personally, I'm very in favor of spirals and I like this design best of all of them.
- That's my personal take.
- As far as moving it around, I don't know whether that would be necessary.
- Think it's a good location.
- It has a nice relationship with the tree near it.
- The PAC was supportive and very appreciative and is looking forward to finally getting Mr. Kahn's sculpture for the town.

Councilmember Rich commented as follows:

- What a beautiful sculpture.
- Thrilling to see this finally moving forward.
- You certainly have stuck to it.
- It has been a lengthy process.
- Discussed interesting and beautiful sculpture.
- Discussed possible locations.
- Ran the Community Center for a while and it's a great location once the Community Center's up and running, but it isn't exactly a highly visible location for our town.
- I do know that you looked at a lot of other possible sites.

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- Would want to know whether there were any other more visible sites that you feel might be worth additional investigation, or if you've really checked them off and they just won't work for whatever reason.

Mr. Kahn commented as follows:

- It hasn't been through lack of effort and time on my part, Committee Member Arnold and the rest of the Public Arts Committee, and Director Svanstrom
- There were many, many sites that we got excited about which then became impossible for various reasons.
- One site that I think is interesting and it might be worth giving a little bit more thought to at some point is the Center for the Arts.
- I explored the idea of somewhere in Ives Park also but then it was that there's concerts and a million people show up and there wasn't a place that leaped out.
- Maybe on the other side where the Center for the Arts is located is a possibility to think about?
- It's sheltered from the wind there.
- It's set down into a little depression there, so that's a factor.
- I know I've had informal conversations with Barney Aldridge from The Barlow, and Mr. Aldridge would love to have the sculpture at The Barlow somewhere, but from discussions with various Councilmembers and Public Arts Committee members, people just felt like that was problematic for a bunch of different reasons.
- I acknowledge that there's no great place that kind of leaps out as an obvious choice.
- This has been such a saga.
- It really is tragic that Caltrans was such a difficult collaborator and really had no motivation to do something nice. They just don't want to be bothered.
- A number of the proposals that involved Caltrans would have been fantastic but you can't force them to do anything they don't want to do.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- If it's movable, which sounds great, then that means there's other sites and is this where we really want it to start?
- We spent a lot of time talking about the entrance of the city and we were so happy about that.
- This is not a place that that corner is visible unless you have somebody going to the Community Center or playing at the ball field.
- I really am also interested in other sites, especially for the launch if we're going to rotate the sculpture around because it's such an important thing that we've worked a really long time on, I think it's the largest investment we've made in a public art piece.
- I was also questioning other sites.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- I'd like to talk about other sites, too, after we hear from the public.
- I did have a question to follow up on one site that was investigated, Tomodachi Park.
- The note that I got from Director Svanstrom was that that wasn't available because of the conservation easement and the deed restrictions with the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District.
- I know we have our own park sign there.
- I'm just wondering if there is some kind of possibility near our sign, moving our sign away from the piece of art, relocating the sign somewhere in our park property because our original concept



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was to do something about that particular gateway and I'd just like to hear a little bit more about any contact the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District to actually have a discussion with them about that as a possibility.

Director Svanstrom commented as follows:

- It came up when I first came onboard and was trying to wrap my head around it.
- I met with the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District to understand the easement.
- Discussed the Caltrans site location.
- Have not investigated that at this point.
- I do believe Tomodachi Park is covered by the same easement.
- Staff can investigate that.
- Think the one area where we may have a little bit more flexibility is on the western side of the bridge where the trail will be coming in which is outside Caltrans.
- Staff is currently in the process of negotiating that conservation easement.
- That could be a possibility but I will investigate if the entrance to the park was somehow prohibited because of the easement.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- Just curious what area is available on the Park Village property at the southwest corner, further south but visible from the road, south of the right-of-way area which I think is marked with a split-rail fence.
- That area is Park Village?
- That's also our City property.

Director Svanstrom commented as follows:

- There may be some potential there.
- There are some environmental issues there as well.

Councilmember Slayter commented as follows:

- The footprint are 4-foot cubes.
- I think that people need to understand that the drawings and photo images appear to be a little out of scale.
- It looks a little bigger than a 4-foot cube to me.
- I think the height is the most important part.
- For it to be seven cubes high at 4 feet, that still gets it nice and high.
- I think that's probably the more important dimension.
- I'm curious about the foundation.
- I know it's not engineered yet.
- How does that work on a slope?
- If, say, maybe a hillside next to a different city facility that has a slope.
- You'd have to angle the "I" beams or you'd have to bury it deeper or have some kind of stand going up into the sculpture.

Mr. Kahn commented as follows:

- A flat site is easier but we can deal with slopes if we need to.

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- Given the ability for the public to walk right up and touch the thing, which I think is fantastic, but I also kind of worry about some people that may want to go up and touch it with maybe malintent.

Councilmember Slayter questioned how repairable, how fixable, how vandal-resistant is the piece?

Mr. Kahn commented as follows:

- Definitely thought about all those things.
- The polycarbonate moving panels are extremely durable, almost impossible to break.
- You could drive a car over them, you scratch them but they don't crack.
- They are super durable.
- The stainless-steel cable net is a super strong thing.
- If someone really wants to damage it, they could.
- As you alluded to, it's entirely repairable, too.
- Sebastopol is my hometown so if anything happened to it, I'd be up there, my crew would be out there fixing it.
- It could just be luck, but I have 100 plus permanent commissions all around the world and I've never had anything vandalized.
- Give people something that's visually satisfying.
- I'm hoping that's the case.

Councilmember Slayter questioned what is the actual dimension of the individual leaves?

Mr. Kahn commented each one is 1 inch wide by 9 inches long.

Councilmember Slayter questioned how thick is the polycarbonate?

Mr. Kahn commented about 1/16" thick.

Councilmember Slayter questioned the status of the plantings on the eastern slope of the Public Works property along the street frontage?

Mr. Kahn commented we know that there's one small tree that would need to be moved because it is near where I'm proposing to put the artwork, but other than that there's nothing else in the way.

Director Svanstrom commented as follows:

- Does not know the status but will check with Public Works.
- Noted that one of the things that she has discussed with Mr. Kahn in the past and would be recommending is moving the fish sculpture that's along the street.
- They looked at it and I think are working on coordinating potentially moving it.

Councilmember Slayter requested staff check in with Public Works and find out where we are with the eastern slope replanting.

Marge Mills Thysen commented as follows:

- I recognize the Council's desire to consider alternate sites.
- I just want to say that this is part of what the Public Arts Committee has done for this sculpture and for many sculptures.

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- We consider sites, it's something that is fun to explore, and you can go on and do it for a long time.
- Like Mr. Kahn to also to mention about the view, which he hasn't spoken about, given the height of this sculpture and location, where it actually can be seen from compared with the other sites, even those that have been discussed this evening.
- I also want to say that as the Public Arts Committee, one of the things that we look at is putting sculptures at the different entrances to the city.
- That's something that is in our view and is our intention with future sculptures.
- We will be looking at another sculpture in the near future.
- Think about how long you want to consider other sites or, perhaps, actually start here at this site to install the sculpture, to have it, and then if there's other sites that do arise then that can be considered.

Mr. Kahn commented as follows:

- Discussed the views.
- The sculpture's almost three stories tall so it will be visible from all kinds of vantage points.
- I think you all can hear in Vice Chair Mills-Thysen's voice the kind of wanting to actually have this thing materialize in physical form, part of it is moving toward establishing some critical mass for the Public Art Program.
- As Vice Chair Mills-Thysen mentioned, there will be future projects, other artists in other places, it's not like this is the last thing that's ever going to happen and there's never going to be a gateway piece.

Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I'm sure you all considered this, but I just wondered about the gateway coming from Cotati. The piece of land that is owned by the City that has the solar dragon on it.
- There are very tall trees there, and the solar dragon's there, but I really like the concept of how it moves and there's those gigantic trees that move in the wind.
- Really like the juxtaposition of those different things.
- Something organic and something that's more about the air in the trees moving with the trees.
- It seems like it could be such a great entryway piece there.
- When I looked at it, it looks like there's a number of utility poles and maybe too many trees, but I am wondering if you all considered that?

Mr. Kahn commented as follows:

- We definitely talked about that site early on.
- Former Planning Director, Kenyon Webster and I went out and looked at it and his take was that there was a bunch of work that went into the solar dragon and that it is a thing in and of itself and would we want to have another artist conflicting or competing with that?
- That's what led us to move on from there.
- That is one of the real portals into the city and so I do recognize that there is potential there.

Mayor Glass opened for public comment.

Kyle Falbo commented as follows:

- If you take a look at the virtual backgrounds I'm providing, there's two particular images I've been bouncing back and forth between give us a location of the proposed site.

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- In terms of the structure that we're talking about here, how well does the art piece do being submerged?
- In particular, the foundation with a completely saturated soil content?
- We are in a floodplain in this particular area in which the proposed site is located.
- Curious how well this will do.
- I don't have a photo of the fish sculpture jumping out of the flood waters, but yes, how will it do being submerged, and how would that foundation do with saturated soil?

Paul Fritz commented as follows:

- I just wanted to express my support.
- I think it's a great sculpture.
- Love the twisting elements of it.
- I do think the site is a little unfortunate.
- I understand that lots of sites have been explored.
- It's kind of tough to get to - it's back out of the way.
- I know a lot of people go to the Community Center.
- The Public Works building is not an architectural masterpiece by any stretch.
- It would be nice to see it someplace else.
- I understand the interest in wanting to get it done.
- I'm sure the Public Arts Committee looked at a lot of places.
- I would hope that maybe we could find something a little better.
- The Center for the Arts seems interesting to me.
- There's some connection there.
- There is an iconic entryway to the park on the High Street side.
- I also like the idea that's been discussed about the area on the west side of the bridge, on the trail side.
- More people can see it and it could be an iconic element.
- I'm afraid it's going to get lost in this area and, again, the backdrop to it is not on par with the elegance of the sculpture itself.

Janet Wolfe commented as follows:

- I live at 974 McFarlane.
- It's very beautiful.

Council Considerations/Deliberations:

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- I anticipate each of us have some suggestions as to other locations.
- It might be great if somebody could keep a running list and put it in front of all of us so we could get Mr. Kahn and the Public Arts Committee to tell us the resolutions on any sites that we suggest that they've already nixed.
- I have six and I'm not sure if they've been considered or not.
- I feel the frustration of the Public Arts Committee in that this has taken so long.
- We can all just growl about Caltrans as therapy and then get on finding a good place.
- I have to acknowledge that we've chosen an internationally renowned sculptor to do this.
- We were hoping for that iconic piece that says this is Sebastopol, you're here.
- I've been thinking about if there other places.

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- I think Mr. Fritz had a very diplomatic way of talking about the Public Works side.
- It's nice because of this view, I think that's the lovely part of it. Otherwise, it's a compromised location, because it's just not a pretty place and not a place where people go to see something pretty.
- In that location, I would be interested in moving it across the way to the entry of the Mrs. Blincoe trail and making it a trailhead entry, except that's even deeper in the flood zone.
- I mentioned already the area near the sign at the park and Director Svanstrom said she might be able to inquire more about that with the easement.
- That puts it near the bridge.
- I mentioned the front yard of Park Village.
- I am wondering more about the Center for the Arts.
- Mr. Kahn mentioned that it's kind of in a gully.
- I'm not sure that the wind is good there all day.
- There's a potential place in that rounded driveway – the garden area where the ballot box is.
- We all know on that strip that is along the creek at one of the entrances to the park that doesn't have any sort of beautiful portals or entrance to it.
- We own the South High parking lot.
- We could take out a few spaces and give the sculpture its own area with benches around it or something
- A couple of other ideas that I had include the Burnett Street parking lot.
- That would put it on South Main, where, again, a lot of people could see it if we were willing to sacrifice a few parking places to create an area for it.
- The plaza, can we set it back to satisfy concerns?
- They put in the concrete benches and crushed granite that looks like a dog area, nothing goes there.
- It would be highly visible there and at one of our main entrances.

Marghe Mills Thysen commented as follows:

- I just want to say in regard to Ives Park, the public sculpture garden is going to be in that area. That's the plan.
- I really appreciate that desire to have a beautiful location.
- It's not the Council only, the Public Arts Committee also wanted that.
- It's something that will be wonderful.
- It's hard to find the perfect location.
- I'm searching for something that is more visible for a piece of art, that we can feature more than the proposal because I don't think many people are going to see it or enjoy it.
- When people are driving by, people are going to go whoa, this is Sebastopol, this is the sculpture, there it is.
- It can be seen, that's why I was asking Mr. Kahn about the view, it can be seen when it's in that location, it could be seen from some prominent places like when entering town.
- I'm imagining you might be able to see it from the Laguna Trail.
- A lot of the vistas there, the Teen Center is the more prominent item that you see.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- I just want to give that sense that I think we have a sculpture here that's really, really important.

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- I want to get it as visible and prominent a location as we can where people will identify that look with Sebastopol.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- I love Vice Mayor Gurney's ideas for locations.
- In fact, the other side of Ives Park, I heard Mr. Kahn say it was nixed because there's a lot of people around.
- My vision for public art is always the more people that can see it the better. Put it up there where everybody can see it.
- I'm concerned about that location out by Public Works also, not only the flooding as the speaker from the public brought up, but also because there's not a lot of cars out there at night driving by.
- If the sculpture, which is beautiful, we have a lot of money invested, and I love Vice Mayor Gurney's idea about that spot.
- It has to be in a spot where there's traffic so we don't have vandalism because that would be awful.
- We hope nobody is going to vandalize it. The reality is it can happen. That's a huge concern I have.
- I love the idea of brainstorming.
- I don't mean to be disrespectful to all the work everybody has put to get it on here.
- I would help Director Svanstrom work with staff to get that revisited. Believe me, I can twist some arms.
- I think we could look at our top sites and then try to make it work.
- Talk to CVS and the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District.
- Maybe those were nixed because the Committee didn't realize that we have a little pull and could make that happen.

Councilmember Slayter commented as follows:

- I'm fine with the proposed location as a starting point.
- I think that talking about locations for potential public art is important and it's something that we need to do.
- We have a list of possible opportunity sites for housing.
- We need to have an opportunity site for public art.
- I'm not sure that all of us sitting around tonight promulgating a list is really the best use of our time, because the list could be endless.
- Every one of these is a potential site for public art.
- I think it's doing a bit of a disservice to the Public Arts Committee, who have been through this.
- They have vetted this over and over and over again.
- Mr. Kahn has been imminently patient with the performance art that is the approval of a project like this.
- I'm fine with the initial proposed location down by Public Works.
- I agree, it's not absolutely ideal. I agree, it should be somewhere more visible.
- I think putting together a list and an opportunity site list for public art is worthy but I'm not sure that's beside them.

Councilmember Rich commented as follows:

- I'm interested in the locations that Vice Mayor Gurney identified.

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- I am interested in the more visible locations.
- Cognizant of Councilmember Slayter's comments and the efforts of the Public Arts Committee- I wouldn't add any addition locations to the list that Vice Mayor Gurney laid out for us.
- I would ask a question of our artist, Mr. Kahn, who is quite aware of the appropriate locations for the sculpture in town.
- I would propose that we might want to ask the artist the question about whether he feels ultimately that this is the best place, given all the factors, or whether he would prefer that other high value locations be investigated before installation.

Mr. Kahn commented as follows:

- I think some of the sites that have been mentioned are worth exploring -Especially in my mind with the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District.
- At some point Mr. Webster and I talked to the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District and we showed them the sculpture. We could have a better conversation with them, that could open up really interesting possibilities.
- I would like to explore that.
- I think that some of the sites around Ives Park could be really interesting.
- I think we should do a little bit more homework before we decide.

Director Svanstrom commented as follows:

- Discussed the easement rights in that area.
- That would be worth exploring.
- I had a retreat there a couple of years ago, and part of that is envisioning what art in the city should look like.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- Questioned if it is intended that the sculpture have lighting on it at night?
- Wouldn't that be beautiful?
- I'm hoping we're thinking of lighting it at night.
- Is that an esthetically good idea?
- It seems to me it would be.

Mr. Kahn commented as follows:

- Depending on the site and the access to power or potentially a solar panel, the sculpture totally lends itself to lighting.
- It would be amazing lit.
- It would also be fine if you didn't light it.
- Depending on where it was located, it could be illuminated by car lights going by, and ambient street lighting.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- That's fun to think about. It sounds even more beautiful.
- Our interest in talking about sites doesn't indicate any disrespect to the Public Arts Committee at all.
- In fact, I think we're all excited about this piece and we're all really wanting it to be showcased in a way deserving of our artist sculptor and our public arts effort.
- I love the idea of night lighting.

Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- My only concern about the night lighting is actually at the location proposed, at this point are there environmental issues to deal with for wildlife, because we do try to keep our lighting low in that area.
- Whereas more in the center of town makes more sense and wouldn't be interfering with wildlife.
- We can't create that sort of conflict or be inconsistent in our policies.
- I think the reason we're explore this is because we control our own properties and I was trying to check to see if our parking lots could be made into mini parks with this sculpture, because we control those.
- We have a lot more influence than we realize.
- I know Bill Keene too, if he's still there.
- I think there are conversations we could try.
- We know Carol, too.
- What I'm hearing is everybody saying we really appreciate all this work that the Public Arts Committee put in.
- If Mr. Kahn's willing to go another round of looking at locations, I think it's a good idea.
- For me, this is such a big deal for our town, and it's like hiding the light under a bushel.
- Hiding your sculpture back in the industrial area of town, even though in some respects it's really a nice thing for people coming off the Laguna Trail to be able to see it and for people at the Community Center to see it also.
- We were thinking about it as an entry piece.
- I had a couple of other thoughts that are kind of off the wall.
- One of them is that area where the lane comes into highway 116 near Fiesta, otherwise known as Pacific Market. There's a couple of islands there.
- It would be super cool across the street from the entrance to Laguna Park and another place is the other entrance/exit to the city off Bodega Highway, which is not owned by Caltrans, if I recall.
- It is some place where we have more flexibility.
- As you're leaving town and going out to the beach, you see this amazing thing – or if you're coming in from the beach, you see this amazing thing.
- I still like the idea of where the solar dragon is because that is another major entrance to town.
- I have a personal attachment and investment in the solar dragon.
- I think former Mayor and Councilmember Michael Kyes would think this is really cool - it kind of makes that triangular area a sculpture garden, and it's a juxtaposition of something natural and created. It has the air and sun.
- Super grateful to Mr. Kahn who after all of this, is considering putting his thinking cap back on and considering more locations.

The Council was in consensus with the piece of art and for staff to research other sites and return this item to the City Council.

**City Council Action: No Action Taken. The Council was in consensus with the piece of art and for staff to research other sites and return this item to the City Council.**

**Minute Order Number: 2021-026**

6. Discussion and Consideration of Direction to Staff on Review of Composition of Planning Commission (Responsible Department: Planning)



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Planning Director Svanstrom presented the agenda item recommending the City Council discuss and consider direction to Staff on Review of Composition of Planning Commission.

Mayor Glass asked for questions of staff. There were none.

Mayor Glass opened for public comment.

Paul Fritz commented as follows:

- Following up on the email I sent you all earlier.
- Definitely don't think you should add a Planning Commissioner.
- Eight plus one would be an enormous amount of people for the City of Sebastopol.
- We would be the largest Planning Commission in the county and I don't really see the advantage of that.
- Imagine how long this meeting would be if you had nine City Council members.
- Our meetings tend to run long as they are, and that just adds to that.
- I would definitely not take that approach.
- In regard to allowing additional people from outside the city limits as a way to increase involvement, I don't necessarily think people need to be on the Commission to be involved.
- The way people participate is to attend meetings, send e-mails, or write comments.
- That doesn't necessarily provide a wider range of opinions from beyond the city limits.
- When there are items that people are excited about and want to comment on, they come to the meetings.
- Many of you probably remember the telecom tower. That was attended by many people outside the city limits.
- I think the question may be how to engage people in that way. Tell people they can sign up to be notified through an email list, that would be a way to increase participation for people outside of town.
- I think the fact that we allow one person to live in the 95472-zip code and live outside the city limits and be on the Commission is already fairly generous.
- We have a business owner currently that lives outside the city limits that's also a participant.
- We have two of the current set of people that do live outside the city limits.
- I think that seems like it's fine. That's enough.
- I would also suggest eliminating the alternate position by attrition.
- I understand that the Planning Commissioner is going to be moving out of town.
- If that position is available, I would suggest allowing seven commissioners to do all of our work.
- That would be plenty.
- I would encourage you to get down to five eventually.

Kyle Falbo commented as follows:

- What if the City decided that we wanted to have six or seven City Council members?
- Imagine the work that you do currently and imagine how that composition of a Council of six or seven members would be disrupted by that larger size.
- What you're suggesting is disrupting the composition of an existing body by increasing the number of individuals that are there, which will increase the length of the meetings, increase the amount of discussion, likely making it more difficult to come to consensus on any sort of decision.
- Consider that for your own body as you make this decision.

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Linda Berg commented as follows:

- I would just like to mention at this time you're talking about the composition of the Planning Commission, I am the sole person for a couple of years that attended both the City Council meetings and the Planning Commission routinely.
- I was at a Planning Commission meeting and wanted to speak and the police were called on me because of the subject matter that I wanted to speak about, and that was the harm and danger of radiation.
- That was two or three years ago when Colin Doyle was on the Commission, he was the person that called the police.
- Prior to that, he threatened to call the police on another one of my colleagues for speaking about the same subject.
- We tried time and time again to get a knowledgeable person to speak on this subject at the Planning Commission to no avail.
- Mr. Webster wouldn't have anything to do with it and it was never allowed.
- This is a very important subject that the City Council needs to know about.
- I'm asking right now if you could make a time, get another person, Paul McGavin or some knowledgeable person to give time for them to do a presentation on this subject, please.

Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I understand from the staff report, we have essential things to make a decision about, and then we can move one direction or the other.
- We can either say we're going to refer this to the Planning Commission for their input, or we can give our input to the Planning Commission and then have the Planning Commission return and give their input back to us, or we could just make a decision right now.
- It's my opinion that just making a decision, without getting the input, we've had one Planning Commissioner already give input, I think it would be kind of rude to make a decision and then not allow for input from the Planning Commission since it's about them and they put in a tremendous amount of work.
- The question is, do we refer, or should we deliberate now and give them our input, or do we wait for their input first?

Councilmember Hinton commented we should get their input, but we have an agenda item tonight, and we might just weigh in on it and wait for their input.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- Two of us sat on the Planning Commission - myself and also Councilmember Slayter, although not at the same time.
- I was recalling the group that I worked with, architect Michael Black, a resident and business owner here, the fellow who designed Two Acre Wood and was responsible for many things, the uplands being preserved as a property.
- Jim Gillian, a very active community member, and Rudy Seidler, local banker now retired, who also ran for Council.
- I am having trouble recalling the name of the seventh person.
- Seven is a good number from my experience. I'm good with staying at seven.
- I don't think we have any intention to disrupt the body or make it impossible for them to come to consensus.
- I'm focused more on creating opportunity where our community has representation.

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- The Planning Commission has been composed of residents or city business owners.
- It was only recently expanded to include a community member in the zip code.
- For me the question is, facing the difficulty that the Council has when we have openings, we don't have a whole lot of applicants.
- In limiting the pool to only one feed for the 95472 community member, we have often fallen short of a competitive application process.
- I would be interested in making sure that we have the opportunity for wide representation and wider choice in our appointment process.
- I would support an idea of potentially having up to two seats for the 94572-zip code.
- I don't think we want to restrict the seats in any way like so many businesspeople, so many in the 95472-zip.
- I would like it to be flexible based on the applicant pool at the time.
- Different issues bring in applicants. If these issues are really hot in the city, there might be more interest. If it's quieter, there may be less interest.
- What we're seeing is a lot of interest in our surrounding areas.
- There are a lot of people who, like Director Svanstrom was saying, think they live in the city limits based on their zip code.
- A lot of people identify here.
- They may be church members, participating in a school, or shopping in our stores.
- There's a lot of points for community involvement that we could review in an application process where there would be no sort of threat to losing the validity of Planning Commission decision making, because we made it too big.
- Of note, the other two cities that allow commissioners outside of their city limits are small cities.
- We're all in the same circumstance.
- We have people that don't live in our narrow little confines but very, very strongly identify with our communities in their practices every day.
- I would stick with seven and expand the 95472-zip code to two potential seats as a maximum.
- Not mandatory, but permissible, as Director Svanstrom would say.

Councilmember Rich commented as follows:

- I love the idea of bumping this back to the Planning Commission and getting their recommendation.
- That's where we have our expertise, they can give us their direction on all of these issues.
- My particular opinion, just to put out there as a consideration by the Planning Commission is that we stick with an odd number of individuals on the Planning Commission, we know to not go to an even number.
- Seven seems like the number that has been working.
- The Planning Commission may have a different opinion.
- An alternate may seem unnecessary, but we can rely on the Planning Commission to give us a recommendation.
- In terms of composition, I would like the Planning Commission to let us know their opinion on whether we should be requiring that at least a majority of our Planning Commissioners actually be residents.
- Is that important? Is it important that we get four of the seven, if it's seven as residents?
- Then have one that would be a business owner, or a resident.

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- One or two depending on what the Planning Commission says, that could be either resident or business person outside our city limits but within the 95472-zip code.
- In terms of how many in that 95472 that are outside the city limits, personally I would like to defer to the Planning Commission on whether they feel that's important in order to make sure that we have the representation on our Planning Commission that we need to get good advice but keeping in mind that it is the city limits we are talking about as Mr. Fritz, the speaker tonight, mentioned.

Councilmember Slayter commented as follows:

- I think that asking the Planning Commission what they think is a good idea.
- At the same time, providing individual Councilmember's input and ideas helps frame their conversation so they know the bounds of where we're coming from.
- Not that this is a wild and crazy thing with crazy bounds.
- I would be in favor of eliminating the alternate position and going to an odd number and seven has been the number for a number of years
- While it may not be ideal for meeting length, I think that may be a good number for opinions.
- That could simply be by attrition in this case.
- The 95427-zip code has been problematic to me. The 95472-zip code is arbitrary in its distance to Sebastopol.
- Somebody who lives almost in Monte Rio would be eligible. Somebody just barely to the east of us would be ineligible.
- That wildly different distance to the city simply based on the arbitrary line that is the zip code, and maybe it's not arbitrary, and I'm uneducated how zip code lines are drawn.
- In this case, it feels arbitrary to me and it always has.
- For instance, how many people do we know who have businesses, deep ties, kids that go to school, all those things, and they come to Sebastopol and they're just over the line?
- I'm wondering if there needs to be a more precise way to identify what we really mean by outside for folks to be part of our Planning Commission.
- I think the interesting question of a Planning Commissioner moving out of the city, that comes up infrequently, but it does happen.
- I would actually be happy in taking that as a case by case basis.
- It could be something that could be as suggested in the staff report by minute order, an item of consent, how does the Council feel about this individual, in talking with the individual, are they Sebastopolians?
- A case-by-case process makes good sense in that very, very rare occurrence.
- Councilmember Rich mentioned critical mass on the Planning Commission.
- I have absolutely no interest in less than a majority of the Planning Commission residing outside the city.
- In other words, I want, at a bare minimum, four people residing in the city and whether they're business owners or not is irrelevant as long as they are residents of the city.
- I think that number needs to be set.
- We don't have the opportunity to influence county policy in any internal way when it comes to things outside our city limits.
- We can advocate and ask, we can lean on people with connections, but we don't have a vote when it comes to land use and policies that are just over our border.
- That's difficult for me, people that do not have skin in the game for businesses in Sebastopol.
- Having a majority as residents of the city is a really important component for this.

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Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- I agree generally with what's being said, which is that I want the majority of the Planning Commission to be residents of our city.
- I think we should tighten that rule up.
- I was surprised when I read online and I had to ask Director Svanstrom about it, what if everyone was a business owner, would that be allowed?
- Our policy allows that and I don't think it should.
- If a bunch of business members lived outside town and were on a Planning Commission.
- I hope we get recommendations for that.
- I also agree with the jurisdiction boundaries generally.
- I think that for other commissions, and we named them tonight, I put forth locals being together from 94572.
- We identify them as being part of our town, too.
- I feel like the Planning Commission is a little more sacred and is making land use decisions within the city.
- I feel a little stronger about those borders.
- I am definitely in favor, if the Planning Commission recommends it, to go down to a permanent seven and possibly with no alternate.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- Discussed the alternate.
- My understanding of the frustration is that there's a lot of conversation and discussion and meetings take a long time because the alternate is appearing at every meeting and functioning in every way like a regular member of the Planning Commission except having a vote, because they are not entitled to vote, unless they're filling a seat due to absence.
- I wonder if there's a way to tighten up that policy and have the alternate participate as a speaking member, plant member, and voting member.
- Otherwise, they're welcome to participate just like everybody else in the audience if they want to come to a meeting where they don't have a voting seat at the table.
- What seems to be the problem of meeting and too much conversation, I also just have to wonder if the concern about that is driven by personalities around relationships, which makes me feel really uncomfortable, if there is that motive for anybody speaking this way.
- We have experienced that in other appointed bodies and it's been problematic.
- I would suggest, as we send it back to the Planning Commission that they consider having an alternate that sits at the table and participates in the very same way that everybody does in the discussion with a vote.
- Otherwise, they're not at the table but in the room or in the Zoom room or whatever it's going to be in our future.
- I want to point out that the Council appoints the Planning Commission.
- The Council is determining that balance between residents and business owners in town.
- Of the six members I could recall on the Planning Commission I sat on, five of them lived in town and I was the sixth person.
- I lived here but worked in Santa Rosa.
- I would expect that if we looked at this historically, sitting Councils have chosen residents as a majority consistently, and I'm not sure that we need to make that a requirement.

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Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I'm feeling that I'm agreeing with a lot of what my colleagues are saying.
- You definitely wouldn't want to expand it to more than seven.
- I'm seriously considering the notion of eliminating the alternate by attrition.
- As a body that is that big, I'm not sure we need an alternate.
- I am very committed to having at least a majority of people on the Commission be residents, as opposed to having it so it would be viable to have just a majority of people who are business owners.
- I'm very committed to that.
- I am also open to hearing suggestions from the Planning Commission about what the boundaries should be.
- If we're going to have people in a 95427-zip code, I hear what Councilmember Slayter said about people who are further out in 95472 as not the same as somebody who lives on Elphick where they can throw a stone into the backyard of somebody who is in the city limits.
- Does the Planning Commission suggest that we should have people that are, as I think Director Swanstrom mentioned, there are some cities that are saying you have to be within two miles of the city limits or something like that.
- Does the Planning Commission have any ideals or contributions to that?
- I think this rounds out what we are all thinking.
- That this is advice to the Planning Commission of what we're thinking. I want to hear from them.
- They're the people sitting there doing the planning on a biweekly basis.
- I want to hear from them on what they would recommend in terms of how we move forward.
- I think this came up because we had a member of the Commission move out of town.
- My other question is, once somebody is on, if they live just outside of town, is it appropriate for them to leave or flip it to this other related position?
- I think all of those are questions to be taken up by the Planning Commission.
- I want to hear what their recommendations are.

The Council was in consensus to direct this back to staff and the Planning Commission for recommendations back to the City Council for a future City Council Meeting.

**City Council Action: The Council was in consensus to direct this back to staff and the Planning Commission for recommendations back to the City Council for a future City Council Meeting.**  
**Minute Order Number: 2021-027**

Mayor Glass called for a break at 8:06 pm and reconvened the meeting at 8:16 pm.

7. Consideration and Direction to Mayor or his/her Designated Representative for Voting for Various Boards and Committee Vacancies at the February 2021 City Selection Committee and Sonoma County Mayors and Councilmembers Association Meeting (City Administration)

Assistant City Manager Gourley presented the agenda item recommending the City Council Provide Direction to the Mayor or Voting Representative for Voting at the City Selection Committee Meeting and the Mayors and Councilmembers Board of Directors Meeting of February 11, 2021. It is also recommended that if late nominations are received or if the City Selection Committee recommends an alternate to the newly created position, that the City Council authorize the Mayor or Designated Voting Representative the authority to vote on these late nominations or recommendations at the City Selection Meeting.

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Mayor Glass asked for questions of staff. There were none.

Mayor Glass opened for public comment.

Mayor Foppoli commented on his letter of interest.

- Thank you for having me.
- First of all, I think it's awesome that you guys allow your commenters with video on.
- That's something we don't do in Windsor.
- It makes people look you in the eye, which is much more impactful.
- I'm going to steal that for my next meeting.
- This is something that I'm very passionate about.
- My personal story behind why I'm so passionate, I'm the grandson of a refugee immigrant who when she came to this country, she decided that the small city she wanted to call home was Sebastopol.
- For my family, the way that she was able to raise my mother and siblings is because there was a Golden Gate transit bus that took her to her job five days a week.
- That was the way she was able to provide a life in your beautiful city.
- For me to step in at one of the direst financial moments of the district's history is very, very fitting.
- With that said, for me it's very, very important for us to have a strong voice in Sonoma county.
- I've been in office, this is my seventh year.
- I get to step in with a strong relationship with the directors from Sonoma, Marin and San Francisco, having known the other directors for a long time and being able to have networking this way to make sure that the county has a voice.
- Right now, I think it's tremendously important, and I understand Sebastopol is a little off the path from it.
- We have our young, SMART Train that is still struggling especially now.
- It's so incredibly important for Golden Gate transit to operate systems that connect with our SMART Train so we have ridership.
- With maintaining the Golden Gate Bridge.
- Going back to kind of the emotional push for me to be on this board, to make sure that we have a strong bus system that connects throughout Sonoma county so that people who need it most have an effective and affordable way to get to their jobs and to get around.
- I'm here, I'll stay on to answer any questions if you need it.
- I humbly ask for your support.

Susan Adams commented on her letter of interest.

- Thank you very much, mayor and members of the Council.
- I come before you this evening to ask for your support for my application to serve in the member position on the Association of Bay Area Government's Executive Board, representing Sonoma county, mayors, and council members.
- By way of a little history lesson here, since 1969, the state of California has required each local government to plan for its share of the state's housing needs for people of all income levels.
- Through the process, every local jurisdiction is assigned a number of housing units represents its share of the state's housing needs for an eight-year period.

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- The total number of homes from each region of California is planned to meet the housing needs of people.
- The total numbers are separated into four income categories, covering low income households to market rate housing.
- Bay area municipalities are responsible for planning and zoning and approving a combined 441,776 new homes.
- That's up 135% over the current period.
- In September 2020, after nearly a year of meeting, the housing methodology committee proposed a methodology, referred to as option 8-a, high opportunity areas, emphasis and job proximity to the ABAG executive board, the board which I hope to join.
- The question I'm often asked is whether the city also build that many homes through the municipalities are required to set aside enough land to build their share of housing, there has been to date no punishment from the state if they are not able to meet their developmental goals.
- As I mentioned in the application letter, I served on the planning commission 14 years, five times as the chair prior to being elected to the City Council in 2018.
- I began serving on the planning commission in the spring of 2019 and appointed by the county to serve on the housing methodology committee.
- In conclusion, if I'm appointed to represent Sonoma County mayors and council members as the primary member of position, I promise to remember that I represent the people and the cities and the towns, and not the other way around.

Kyle Falbo commented as follows:

- As described, this body provides our city with an opportunity to work in a shared capacity.
- Since a full listing of representatives isn't in the notes it doesn't appear that Sebastopol has been active in this body.
- It would be my hope that Sebastopol would be more heavily represented especially considering the years of experience of three members of this Council whose names are surprisingly vacant from the current list.
- I would encourage the members to seriously consider submitting their own letter for a vacant position in the future.
- In particular, losing a representative seat on ABAG from a previous first-term candidate with no presented letter of interest from Sebastopol is unfortunate.
- Additionally, with how much support and praise many have given to those that have had their names submitted and without full ballots to support in of these roles I'm surprised these Council members aren't seeking opportunities to work and collaborate with these individuals in a shared governance opportunity.
- I appreciate the lively discussion about voting theory and use this opportunity to vote we move to ranked choice voting.
- Finally, I want to mention the route 52 serves the smart network and while the discussion is tumorous it's an important gateway to getting to the SMART Train for Sebastopol residents.
- I would hope that access to SMART is taken more seriously in the future.

Council Deliberations:

After Council deliberations discussed below, the Council conducted straw votes on letters of interest for each board/committee vacancies. The names highlighted in yellow below are names provided to the



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Mayor or her voting delegates at the Mayors and Councilmembers Board Meeting and City Selection Committee Meeting.

Letters of Interest Received for consideration are listed below.

CITY SELECTION COMMITTEE Appointments to Consider:

- **Bay Area Air Quality Management District**, one position, to fill expired term (March 2021) of Teresa Barrett (Petaluma). Two-year term.  
**One letter received from Teresa Barrett (Petaluma)**
- **Golden Gate Bridge, Highway & Transportation District**, appointment made by the Board of Supervisors, one position, to fill expired term (January 2021) of Gina Belforte (Rohnert Park). Two-year term.  
**Two letters received:**
  - **Dominic Foppoli (Windsor)**
  - **Gerard Giudice (Rohnert Park)**

Councilmember Rich commented as follows:

- I'm definitely in favor of this particular position for Mayor Foppoli.
- I was impressed by his letter, his background, and his incorporation of his personal experience.
- I have to say, I'm also compelled by my experience with him at the Cal City's conference where he was very collaborative and well spoken.
- I think he would be an excellent advocate for interests on this particular assignment.
- I vote for him.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- As would I support Mr. Foppoli.
- In this situation, I think we are looking at a really significant board because of the area that it covers and the jurisdictions that it covers.
- I think we need someone with experience in office and governance to take the responsibility.
- Our colleague has been in office all of two months, and I just don't feel comfortable not knowing somebody and going along with their enthusiasm.
- I think Mr. Foppoli has demonstrated his leadership skills.
- I would be supportive of our voting for him in this position.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- I did have a conversation with Mr. Giudice in all fairness, but I think he is a brand new elected, and this is a really important seat, and Mr. Foppoli has shown his leadership with Windsor.
- Over two fires happening, I'm just supportive of Mr. Foppoli tonight.

Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I have spoken with both Mr. Giudice and Mr. Foppoli.
- I think they're both well qualified.
- Mr. Giudice has been on the Planning Commission, so he's not a total newbie.
- He does understand a lot of the issues and has had a very collaborative relationship with somebody who was a former member of the City Council.

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- However, Mr. Foppoli's got the experience here and I'm seeing that he's getting the consensus vote here.
- I will be right in there with the consensus of the Council and my vote will also be supporting Mr. Foppoli.
- **Local Agency Formation Commission**, one position, to fill expired term (May 2021) of Teresa Barrett (Petaluma). Two-year term.  
**One letter received from Mark Landman (Cotati)**
- **Metropolitan Transportation Commission**, one position, to fill vacated term of Jake Mackenzie (Rohnert Park). Vacated term expires February 2023. Per Gov. Code 66503(b), The City Selection Committee submits 3 names, and the appointment is made by the Board of Supervisors).  
**Four letters received:**
  - **Brian Barnacle (Petaluma)** 3
  - **Victoria Fleming (Santa Rosa)** 2
  - **Mike Healy (Petaluma)**
  - **Neysa Hinton (Sebastopol)** 1

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- This position is something I've been interested in for some time.
- Some of you may know, I've talked to all of my colleagues on the Council.
- Spoke with most elected officials in Sonoma County about my possible appointment to this board.
- I will tell you that I have been supported by Santa Rosa with three names put forth.
- I've been supported so far by Cloverdale, and Healdsburg as they put forth only one name, my name, for this position to help with the vote count.
- I'm very honored that those small cities appreciate that.
- It would be exciting to have somebody who is really passionate about the position from a small city.
- I will work really hard to fill the position.
- I would appreciate my name being put forth tonight in whatever form the Council sees fit.
- It will be appointed at the end of the day by the Board of Supervisors but having my hat in the ring is something that I feel really strongly about and I would approach it just like I've approached my other four years on Ag & Open Space, which is very actively engaged in making policies that make sense for the city.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- Requested clarification on votes from other cities as discussed by Councilmember Hinton.
- Not sure it is understood what was said.
- They have already endorsed Councilmember Hinton as their one and only choice?

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- No. Santa Rosa has endorsed me as one of their three choices.
- Cloverdale, Healdsburg, and Rohnert Park have endorsed me as their only choice.

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Vice Mayor Gurney commented that is indicating while we can submit three names, we can stick with fewer.

Councilmember Hinton stated that is her understanding.

Staff stated the City Selection Committee has to submit three names per the by-laws.

The Council discussed the process and by laws of submitting one, two or three names and voting by the Mayor as directed by the Council. It was stated if only one name was provided by this Council that would be the name the Mayor would be authorized to vote on at the meeting as the council has not given the Mayor direction for any other names to consider on that list if only one name is submitted. The majority of the voting members, if you disqualified yourself because you're only going to vote for one, it's majority of eight.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- If one candidate has all cities, and the other second and third place candidates have fewer than nine, then we're indicating priority to the board of supervisors.
- Our candidate is stronger for that reason.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- That's absolutely correct.
- That's how they ended up two years ago in the staff report that went to support Jake McKenzie to the Board of Supervisors.
- The city votes are indicated in the staff report. The Council votes are what's indicated in the staff report.
- Right now, I'm leading, and then Ms. Fleming and Mr. Barnacle are tied for second and third.
- Mr. Healy has one vote right now, and that's Petaluma only.
- Three cities are left to vote on this item

The Council was in consensus to support Councilmember Hinton. The Council then discussed whether to support a second and third choice.

Councilmember Rich commented as follows:

- We've got a City Council member who is very motivated to take on this responsibility, who has already received the honor of being the only name put forward by another member of City Council.
- Personally, I would be for simply putting forward Councilmember Hinton's name and stopping there, having her completely supported by the City Council on which she serves.

Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- This is making a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors when, in reality, the Mayors and Councilmembers should be empowered to seat one of their own.
- It's just the way that this is set up is screwy and it's always felt that way to me.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

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- I think the other difficulty for us, because we haven't been able to have the Councilmembers, we don't know these people personally, where you get to talk to somebody face to face, sit through a dinner meeting and a program.
- We don't have the opportunity to know all the people who are on this list or to welcome new members in person.
- For instance, I know Ms. Fleming better because I've talked to her and she's been available longer than, say, Mr. Barnacle, who is brand newly elected.
- That makes it hard without the association to make a choice.
- For me, Ms. Fleming would be our runner-up second choice designee for the Mayor's direction because I think she would be good if Councilmember Hinton somehow didn't prevail as the first choice.

Councilmember Rich commented as follows:

- If we were going to choose three, I would be supportive of Ms. Fleming because of her depth of experience.
- She's the one who has been there doing this for a while.
- I would also honestly support Mr. Barnacle because I do know about his background and I feel his background would be very effective in this particular position.
- I have met him, and he's a very compelling person in terms of not only his depth of knowledge but also his ability to work effectively with others.
- I saw that through the Cal City's conference.
- We have enough information here if we wanted to come up with three.
- I think it's more a matter of making our strongest vote the vote that is most likely to get the results

Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I would say we certainly need to support Councilmember Hinton who is on our Council.
- My second choice would be Ms. Fleming.
- My third would be Mr. Barnacle.
- Ms. Fleming has the depth of experience
- I don't know how this is going to pan out in the vote of the board or my vote with the Council.
- I want to have a voice for at least a second choice.
- I don't want to stay silent if there's going to be a second person and a third person on the list.
- Would like to have a second choice.

Councilmember Slayter commented as follows:

- It's difficult not knowing exactly how this goes.
- It was easier in the past because there was exactly one name, and that one name had 20 years of experience.
- I think the Mayor and Councilmember's Association's growing pains at this point is the loss of the bench, the very, very deep bench that we had for all those years with Jake.
- I'm supportive of Councilmember Hinton as a first choice.
- Obviously, that's logical to support one of our own. Why wouldn't we do that?
- The difficulty is that I don't want it to feel like we are diluting our support by providing the Mayor the ability to have a choice in a potential second or even third round of voting.
- That's the way that this goes. That feels like we are sort of cutting ourselves off in having a voice.
- I think the answer would be to have our ranked choice as first, second, and third.

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- Even though we're not asked to rank them, but we could rank them for the Mayor in her selections.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- I'm comfortable with Councilmember Hinton strongly number one as a leader out there.
- Ms. Fleming would be number two.
- I'm just going to have to trust those of you who have some experience with Mr. Barnacle and I would go with Mr. Barnacle as our third choice.

Councilmember Rich commented as follows:

- I think it's important to give respect to our Mayor, who is going to have to be in this decision-making situation.
- If Mayor Glass is saying that she is going to be more comfortable with having some additional names and knowing this Council's recommendation with those additional names, then we have to give her the nod to do that.
- If I'm forced to say who those people would be, it's clear I'm number one with Councilmember Hinton.
- If I'm forced to then go to a second name, I would go with Ms. Fleming because of her experience and background and what she brings to the table, especially with recent changes with Jake McKenzie gone.
- My final person would be Mr. Barnacle if we were going to go to a third person.

Vice Chair Gurney commented as follows:

- The vote count is going to indicate rankings in the order which they're voted for in the minutes.
- The vote is called, who is your first choice, and you're the majority of the first choice.
- That's important for the Board of Supervisors to know.
- What's the second name, who's the third name, that's handled.
- That's what I'm thinking they'll do.

Mayor Glass commented:

- There's a second round of voting, then in the second round they vote for Ms. Fleming.
- If there's a third round, then I would vote for Mr. Barnacle.
- **Remote Access Network (RAN) Board**, one position, to fill term of Tom Schwedhelm if his position changes as Mayor (there is no specific term, but it must be filled by a Mayor).  
*[No letters were received for this specific opening.](#)*
- **Sonoma County Oversight Board Committee**, one position (Alternate), to fill a vacated term of David Cook (Sonoma). Unspecified Term.  
*[No letters were received for this specific opening.](#)*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Appointments to Consider:

- **ABAG Executive Board**, two positions, to fill vacated terms of Jake Mackenzie (June 2021) (Rohnert Park) (**Member**) and Michael Carnacchi (June 2021) (Sebastopol)(**Alternate**). Term would expire June 2021.  
**Three letters received:**

- o Susan Adams (Rohnert Park) (Seeking Member position) full member
- o Ariel Kelley (Healdsburg) (Seeking Member position)
- o Dennis Pocekay (Petaluma) (Seeking Member or Alternate position) alternate

Councilmember Rich commented as follows:

- Being a newly elected Council member now serving on a couple of regional boards, it has been a learning lesson, very steep, about how important it is to have expertise on those regional boards.
- When I look at Ms. Adams in this position and her background it just screams out, this is a person who can be a good advocate in a job that takes quite a bit of knowledge.
- For 14 years on the Planning Commission, she's got two years on the Rohnert Park City Council, working on a third one.
- She's already working with ABAG on a committee.
- This just seems like a person who can be very effective in the position and can step in without any delay or newbie sort of issues.

Councilmember Slayter commented as follows:

- I think that the recent actions that we have seen out of Rohnert Park, what I'm seeing there is a shift in ideology certainly within the Council towards maybe a little bit more alignment with the values that we out here in West county hold, and the emphasis on sustainability and protecting our environment have -- those efforts and those statements have not gone unnoticed
- Discussed housing - it's one of those difficult things where, yes, we need all those housing units but at the same time, where's all the water going to come from? How are they going to get built, financing? It seems almost like an unsolvable problem.
- To have representation that identifies the dichotomy that exists between all those different things all tugging at the same problem I think is really important.
- Frankly, what I see from Ms. Adams is a firm grip on grappling with those things.
- I'm in support of Ms. Adams as well for the primary.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented what do we do in the circumstance where there's one alternate position be one person willing to be flexible and take that?

Staff commented the Council recommend one member to the position and if at the City Selection Committee that question is asked and if that person is willing to take an alternate and then the Council could authorize the Mayor to vote on that but recommended the Council vote on what is in front of them tonight as the Councilmember did not apply for the alternate.

The Council was in support of Ms. Adams as primary.

The Council discussed the alternate position.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- I am supportive of Ms. Kelley as the alternate even though she's not listed as she accepted it, and that just might be because she's new and didn't know
- She would be my second choice for the alternate position.
- I do know that she called me and she didn't rule out when she was talking the me about the possibility of serving in the alternate role so I do believe she would take that on if she had the votes.

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Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I actually would tend to support Mr. Pocekay, having known him for a while, his interest in climate protection and basically in Green issues.
- I'm tending to want to support him as the alternate.
- But I'll take direction from the rest of my Council.

Councilmember Rich commented as follows:

- I have met both Mr. Pocekay and Ms. Kelley. Very different personalities.
- Both very good backgrounds, although fairly new to this sort of responsibility.
- I wish I knew a little bit more about what this executive committee really needed in terms of the personality, the drive piece.
- Given that I was impressed equally by both of them, they both seemed sincere and dedicated to their new positions I would absolutely leave the discretion in Mayor Glass' control.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- I would just remind us looking ahead that Ariel has also already put in her application for Ag and Open Space where there's three names and open positions.
- We may want to support Mr. Pocekay as an alternate and support her on the other assignment.
- I don't think it's wise to pile up all the new regional experience on one new person if we could let more people get some beginner experience at this regional level.
- I would tend to support Mr. Pocekay for this one and looking ahead for Ag & Open Space to consider Ms. Kelley there.
- I know her just for the last two months and her comments are always on point and really productive in the deliberations.
- I like the way she is holding her seat.
- I think she could be strong in Ag and Open Space and we could give Mr. Pocekay a chance here.
- I think with Ms. Adams as the main person, the alternate's not going to get a whole lot of opportunity

The Council was in support of Mr. Pocekay as alternate.

- **North Bay Division, League of California Cities**, one position (Alternate), to fill expired term of John Sawyer (February 2021) (Santa Rosa). Term expires two years from appointment.  
**One letter received from John Sawyer (Santa Rosa)**
- **Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation & Open Space District Citizens Advisory Committee**, three positions, to fill the vacated terms of John Dell'Osso (June 2021) (Cotati) and Leah Gold (February 2021) (Healdsburg); and the expired term of Neysa Hinton (February 2021) (Sebastopol). Terms expire two years from appointment.  
**Four letters received:**
  - **Brian Barnacle (Petaluma)**
  - **Neysa Hinton (Sebastopol)**
  - **Ariel Kelley (Healdsburg)**
  - **Skylaer Palacios (Healdsburg)**

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

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- Although it is strange proposing two people from the same city, I would be interested in proposing myself, Ms. Kelley, and Ms. Palacios from Healdsburg, especially in light of our rank that we just did on ABAG.
- Both Ms. Kelley and Ms. Palacios have talked to me about this position.
- Ms. Palacios in-depth, more as an informational interview.
- I know that part of what she's interested in serving on this is because she doesn't have a big committee load within her own Council, so she's not on a lot of their big committees there, and this is an advisory position, where the staff does a lot of the work and the recommendations unlike some of the other director positions.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- This is a curious one, because when you look at the mix, Councilmember Hinton said, there are two people from the same city.
- I'm not sure that's a good way to go.
- I understand the logic behind the presentation.
- We also have three brand-new people.
- Mr. Barnacle, Ms. Kelley, and Ms. Palacios if we wanted to go all three that way.
- Then we have Councilmember with experience who wants to continue.
- We have to make some kind of choice, I think, based on those qualities.
- I want to argue against my earlier point about Ms. Kelley being available here.
- She's also on the SCTA.
- Councilmember Hinton you told us Ms. Palacios doesn't have an appointment up there for much of a workload? If that's the situation, maybe she's a good choice because we give a new person the chance to get to the regional level rather than one of them having two of the jobs.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- To be honest that board doesn't have a lot of diversity.
- It's an opportunity to open that up in a really great year right now when Carol heard and the interim director, they're going to be hiring a new GM.
- It's a really good year to be coming on and also to be adding some diversity to that board would be a helpful thing.
- That board's pretty large because all the board of supervisors have appointees on it and also there's lobbying and special interest represented.
- The farm bureau has a seat. It's a fairly big board and they also have a fiscal oversight committee, so there's a lot of people in play.
- It's not like a certain part of the County isn't represented.

Councilmember Rich commented as follows:

- We definitely have to put Councilmember Hinton's name forward.
- I have met Mr. Barnacle, Ms. Kelley, and Ms. Palacios.
- I definitely would encourage that we put forward Ms. Palacios' name.
- Her background, her letter was impressive.
- Her connection to Sonoma County, the passion with which she conveyed her interest and the fact that she worked with parks and rec.
- She has a reason for being passionate about this interest, and she is young and she is a woman of color, and we do always talk about diversity, and this is an opportunity to do something that would support diversity.



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- In terms of the third person, I was really impressed by Ms. Kelley, but if we're going suggest a third person, I too would be uncomfortable putting forward two names from one jurisdiction.
- I was impressed by Mr. Barnacle. I would put him forward, also.
- I'd love to hear from someone about the two people from one city. That just doesn't seem right.
- Finally I would say Ms. Kelley has a lot of things she's already doing.
- She's very engaged politically, and she's a dynamo. So she does have enough to keep her busy.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- I like the idea that Mr. Barnacle put his name in for two opportunities.
- Clearly, he wants to contribute more at a level beyond just his city.
- I would be supportive of him as well.
- Councilmember Hinton, Ms. Palacios, and Mr. Barnacle.

Councilmember Slayter commented as follows:

- I have difficulty understanding why we would want two people from a city that is not our own.
- To me that just seems crazy.
- Also looking at geographic equity and Petaluma, Sebastopol, Healdsburg, and the person of Ms. Palacios provides geographic diversity as well as a significant diversity in many other important ways.
- Those would be my three.

Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- My choice is Mr. Barnacle , Councilmember Hinton, and Ms. Palacios look at the list here.
- I'm really interested diversity.
- I do know that Ms. Kelley has a tremendous amount of things she's involved with.
- Councilmember Hinton has the experience and memory in the open space district, and then Mr. Barnacle has a skill set that is particularly appropriate for being on this board.
- That's why I support Councilmember Hinton, Mr. Barnacle, and Ms. Palacios.

Councilmember Rich commented as follows:

- As a note, I just want to make sure that we continue to be comfortable with the direction we've given as a Council regarding the alternate for the ABAG executive board position.
- The reason I bring it up is because the discussion between Ms. Kelley and Mr. Barnacle, and Mr. Pocekay evolved around the fact that Ms. Kelley would be forward for the Ag and Open Space
- I'm comfortable but I wanted to put it out to the Council to see if there's any further discussion that needs to be had on that spot.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- I was more comfortable with Ms. Kelley in the alternate spot, but again, since she didn't put her letter that I way I feel comfortable leaving it in the hands of Mayor
- I don't know if we're ranking it, but I would vote for Ms. Kelley if she was willing to accept the alternate position for ABAG over Mr. Pocekay from Petaluma.

Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I just have to say that I have spoken with Mr. Pocekay a lot and I'm comfortable with him moving forward, and in particular, as I recall, Vice Mayor Gurney said that Ms. Kelley is on the SCTA
- She is involved with many things that are time consuming.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- Appreciate Councilmember Rich keeping us with the details and check all the boxes that we've created and circled back to our conversation.
  - That's good particularly when our conversation goes a long time and meetings get later and later.
  - We all need to do that for each other. Thank you for doing that.
  - I'm comfortable with Mr. Pocekay.
  - Those of you who do know Ms. Kelley, everyone said she's doing a whole lot some I think in this case Mr. Pocekay is a good alternate.
  - He put in for the alternate position, and I'm fine with that. I think he'll be a good choice.
- **Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit Commission (SMART)**, one position, to fill a vacated term of Joe Naujokas (February 2023) (Healdsburg).  
**One letter received from Melanie Bagby (Cloverdale)**
  - **SMART/non-SCTA member**, one position, to fill the expired term of Debora Fudge (January 2021) (Windsor). Four-year fixed term.  
**One letter received from Debora Fudge (Windsor)**

**MOTION:**

Councilmember Rich moved and Vice Mayor Gurney seconded the motion to Provide Direction to the Mayor or Voting Representative for Voting at the City Selection Committee Meeting and the Mayors and Councilmembers Board of Directors Meeting of February 11, 2021. The recommendations are highlighted in yellow above. It is also recommended that if late nominations are received or if the City Selection Committee recommends an alternate to the newly created position, that the City Council authorize the Mayor or Designated Voting Representative the authority to vote on these late nominations or recommendations at the City Selection Meeting.

Mayor Glass called for a roll call vote. City staff conducted a roll call vote.

VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmembers Hinton, Rich, Slayter, Vice Mayor Gurney and Mayor Glass  
 Noes: None  
 Absent: None  
 Abstain: None

**City Council Action: Provided Direction to the Mayor or Voting Representative for Voting at the City Selection Committee Meeting and the Mayors and Councilmembers Board of Directors Meeting of February 11, 2021. The recommendations are highlighted in yellow above. It is also recommended that if late nominations are received or if the City Selection Committee recommends an alternate to the newly created position, that the City Council authorize the Mayor or Designated Voting Representative the authority to vote on these late nominations or recommendations at the City Selection Meeting.**

**Minute Order Number: 2021-028**

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- Just responding to Kyle, I appreciate his interest in encouraging us to do more than we are.
- I think it's important to note that I'm on a regional board.
- The Mayor is on several regional boards.
- Former Mayor Patrick Slayter is on the regional boards, Councilmember is on regional boards and Councilmember Rich is on her way up to them.

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- Each of us in our first years didn't jump right in because we wanted to get the feel for what we're doing.
- What we have to do is how we can fit this volunteer effort in our lives especially those of us who are working full-time or more when we were elected.
- I want to assure Kyle we have significant positions recognized regionally and our voice is pretty well respected but often times kind of loud with a leadership quality to it.
- I appreciate the new people joining in in this group and I think Sebastopol can also contact those people that we selected tonight, assuming they prevail, and let them hear from us what we want them to do for us.

Councilmember Slayter commented as follows:

- Discussed Councilmembers serving as chairs of the Sonoma Councilmembers Association, which is a rotating seat, and stated Vice Mayor Gurney held that seat and I held that seat, and there's a tremendous amount of responsibility that comes with that as well
- Those comments were difficult to hear.

Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I think many of the public, when they read an agenda and do not know what we actually do, they probably do not understand.
- I spend at least 20 hours a week and have more than a full-time job and other clients.
- I know that Councilmember Hinton has a full-time job and has multiple positions and all of us put in at least 20 hours a week on the Council.
- I have chosen not to apply for certain things right now because I have so much to do right now between the Mayor's meet every single week.
- We have Agenda Review Committee and Mayor/Staff check ins every single week.
- Our workload is way more than going to these meetings.

**CITY COUNCIL REPORTS:**

8. City Manager-Attorney/City Clerk Reports:

City Manager McLaughlin commented as follows:

- As of this afternoon our police chief candidate has passed his background investigation.
- He's got a couple more hoops to jump through, and then we anticipate releasing his name publicly.
- We're not quite to the finish line, but we're very close, and that was very good news to get this afternoon.
- I wanted to follow up also, if I could, from your last Council meeting the meeting of January 19th when you received the report from CoMission on their survey results.
- I wanted to report that we've devoted large portions of the last three staff meetings that we regularly hold to reviewing these survey results by each department head and looking to formulate a list of things that we can either do as a staff or things that we can propose to the City Council as a result of what we found from that survey.
- Some of these items are things we can do as a staff. Some are items we'll propose. That list will be coming to you in the near future.
- You'll also be receiving a report from CoMission on its other activities, which are ongoing, which were not discussed at the last meeting when they presented their survey.
- That information is coming to you.

- A couple of highlight from the department head review:
  - we are looking at upgrading our Website.
  - We have a new public interaction question and answer to utilize.
  - We are reviewing increased diversity on commissions boards, and committees.
  - There's activity in the fire department having to do with emergency preparedness, advice to the public on issues they asked about in the survey, including information on garage door issues, which arose during the evacuation times we have had our power out.
  - A number of things being proposed by the planning department to increase public participation to highlight tenant resources on our city Website and other things.
  - Police Department is looking to increase their social media presence and to work with application programs which will provide direct feedback to the department and vice versa to the community from the department.
  - The number of other items you can read in there -- the public works department is following up.
  - The CIP projects indicated in the survey indicated strong support for areas for bicycles, hiking and walking and parks, and there's a strong number proposed in the CIP.
  - Also, enhancements in civic engagement and a couple of our programs that we are doing in that area.
- There's just a few highlights.
- I did not want to go through the full list this evening, but those were all actions and follow-up from the CoMission survey.

9. City Council Reports/Committee/Sub-Committee Meeting Reports: (Reports by Mayor/City Councilmembers Regarding Various Agency Meetings/Committee Meetings/Sub-Committee Meeting /Conferences Attended and Possible Direction to its Representatives (If Needed) on Pending issues before such Boards)

Councilmember Rich commented as follows:

- Made additional points regarding existing obligations and our existing presence throughout the region in various ways
- I'm on two regional boards: The Marin Sonoma Mosquito and Vector Control
- Zero-waste Sonoma I'm also on - used to be Sonoma Waste Management.
- Does a lot of really important environmental work within the region.
- I just want to note for this group that they gave substantial recognition to Henry Mikus, who retired. There were a lot of accolades from that board and others attending the meeting.
- Also, you'll be seeing before us a modification to our ordinance the disposable food ware issue, and we already have an ordinance in place that limits the use of those disposable food items but there's going to need to be a modification because of an ingredient, a chemical portion that's really bad for human being that's showing up in a lot of these.
- I'll come back with specifics about that.
- Also a kiosk is being consider in the town. I'm working on that project.
- SB 1373 is an organics mandate we'll see moving into each of the city because there's a deadline coming up. I'm working on that issue, too and trying to make sure that the city is prepared to deal with the issues.
- One of them, interestingly, is the diversion of edible foods is part of that SB-1383 foods.
- The other piece is we don't want our organics in landfills because it messes things up.
- That will have substantial impact on us.

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- Emergency preparedness is great. Moving forward, doing a lot of communications work within the city to try to prepare neighborhoods for energies.
- Climate Action Subcommittee is moving forward great.
- Endorsed Climate Safe California, which is the climate centers initiative, and that will be seen in front of the City Council sometime soon.
- Our own zero waste committee is gearing up and will be meeting probably this week with that committee.
- Sebastopol service clubs are coming together
- Our climate action subcommittee is gearing up. We have great leadership there.
- Vice Mayor Gurney and I are both involved and they have endorsed the climate safe initiative that the City Council will be seeing.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- I want to mention we were all on the Sebastopol World Friends takeout challenge. Their annual meeting/dinner.
- That was super fun and the food was Yummy.
- The night of the 23rd, had a Sebastopol budget subcommittee meeting
- I was on also with Councilmember Slayter on Senator Maguire's meeting that was organized by the League of Cities on the 27th.
- I was on the ag and open space regional board meeting on the 28th.
- I have two Ag & Open Space funding meetings this week, and because Sebastopol doesn't have an application in, I get to sit on those and oversee projects.
- I was able to go look at a project in one of our cities since I represent all the cities in that and look at a project that was pretty interesting on Sunday.
- Been really enjoying the aqua aerobics class in the mornings at our Ives pool. You sign up online.
- It is very popular. I have been doing it with my mom and my sister, and I will say that, again, I always think, what a great resource we have right in our own little city five minutes from our house.

Vice Mayor Gurney commented as follows:

- Reporting on the Community Center at my meeting between meetings.
- I counted all the meetings that fall between now and our next meeting -- there's eight
- Just to mention how busy we all are as volunteers.
- Quickly from the Community Center -- they're continuing to upgrade their programs and protocols to make everything very accurate and tight.
- They had a great art camp, very successful, very positive feedback and will do that again.
- They're continuing to work on the teen tutoring program, which is complimentary for the Center of the Arts which has the younger age group, so they're going to 6th to 12th graders which would be fun for our community to have the full spectrum of grades handled.
- Also, they're upgraded the Website.
- Working on social media campaigns.
- Everything is just in that mode now where it's been a lot of cleanup, and now moving to hopefully be open when they can open.
- They're putting in an application for more PPP.
- I want to say they're all dedicated, enthusiastic, upbeat, even with the challenges that COVID presented after the flooding situation.

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Councilmember Slayter commented as follows:

- Subcommittee report is the GSA, ground water sustainability agency met last Thursday - this is going to be a very busy year for that agency.
- The short version of it is that we need to get our groundwater sustainability plan done
- This year is going to be a really busy year and in order to meet the state's deadline to get the plan in place.
- We have an opportunity to update it and to revise the plan on a regular schedule.
- So this is going to be a very busy year for that agency.
- Sonoma Clean Power meets on Thursday of this week.
- Sonoma Clean Power is holding our annual board leadership elections, and it has been quite a year for me to be in charge of that as chair for that board, and it's been an honor to represent Sebastopol.
- The big things that we have done this year on that board are that we have extended our CEO's contract and we did in the last 12 months was sign up for the JPA to work together on projects that will be too large for any single entity.
- This is where the environmental rubber hits the road.
- I attended what used to be called the state of the county
- According to Dr. Nickelson from UCLA who providing the annual report on the economy, we are positioned quite well in a lot of ways
- Basically due our tourism industry as a county.
- If we continue what we're doing, we're well positioned to maybe lead the charge into recovery.
- Fire and emergency services. Our subcommittee met for the first time in its new rotation – we have some items that we're working on that will be continued conversations
- Will make sense for us to report in a more formal way to the council a list of things we're working on. I think that's important to our community and also to our colleagues.
- Discussed the friendship dinner last week - the organization really put together a great program and I think everybody had a great time.
- So thanks to everybody for attending both here and in the community as a whole.
- That is such a community resource and just a gem in our community.

Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I had a meeting with Project Home Key and County staff, and we met with the occupants of the commercial properties that are next to the Sebastopol inn.
- We discussed their ongoing issues with what's going on with the parking, what's going on with the trail, what's going on with those types of issues
- Had two meetings regarding that with two different groups over the past two weeks.
- All in all, that is turning out to be a generally very positive outcome.
- There's a relationship going on between the managers of what is now the Sebastopol Inn and some of the businesses that are occupants adjacent to it and a growing relationship going on there.
- We dealt with some design issues with fencing issues
- We had a second meeting that was with some other members of the business community that are not adjacent to the property.
- They seemed less positive and more negative about what was going on with it.
- But the people that actually are occupants next to the inn seemed very positive.
- We are working with CDC staff and with District Supervisor Hopkins' staff to keep everybody in the loop about the details as that project keeps rolling out.

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- We had a meeting of the law enforcement subcommittee as I recall.
- We also had a meeting with a community group and an interview with our potential new police chief to get feedback from members of the community and that was an extremely positive meeting.
- Every week I have the Mayor's meeting and this past week we had a meeting with Bill Dodd, who talked to us about what's going on up at the Sacramento capital.
- He said he's got a bill that is emergency planning for passes.
- One of the things he was talk, about in that Bill was funding for microgrid planning.
- There was also another Bill that's for providing funding for water shutoff.
- So individuals that are economically impacted by the COVID emergency, there is going to be funding for people that are getting their water shut off.
- This is an issue because we cannot because of prop 218, we cannot have graduated rates, tiered rates for low income people. It has to do with the funding mechanism for water bills, et cetera.
- This piece of legislation would provide funding for people that are in danger of having their water and sewer shut off.
- That would be good for people here in Sebastopol.
- There was also funding to do with wildfire resiliency, and so that's all moving forward.
- State extension of eviction, preventing people from being evicted to June 30th so, that's moving forward in Sacramento.
- Funding to work on reduction of wildfire fuel. So basically wildfire mitigation money.
- There was a tremendous amount of information in that briefing.
- We also got a briefing that same afternoon from Jared Huffman who had reports of his being in the Capitol, over the past few weeks, which has been a rather hair raising experience.
- He gave us a briefing of what's going on in Washington.
- Then we also had another Mayor's briefing what's going on with vaccinations.
- The big message really is that we have one of the largest populations in California, and that's why our County is vaccinating people 75 and over first, because we have such a huge 75 and over population.
- That population has accounted for over two-thirds of the mortality to do with COVID, and so that's why vaccinations are going there first and not the group that's between 65 and 75.
- So I've gotten a lot of briefings from the CDC and from Dr. Mayes
- We had the budget subcommittee meeting and so there will be an update on that but the committee went over some proposed tweaks to the meeting and to the budget
- We've also set the calendar for our future budget meetings

10. Council Communications Received. There were none.

11. Future City Meeting Dates/Events (Informational Only): (See and Below City Web site for Up-to-Date Meeting Dates/Times)

**CLOSED SESSION:** None

**ADJOURNMENT OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

Meeting will be adjourned to the City Council Regular Meeting of February 16, 2021 at 6:00 pm (VIRTUAL ZOOM PLATFORM)

Mayor Glass adjourned the meeting at 10:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary C. Gourley  
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC

DRAFT