

MINUTES - MORRO BAY CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING – JANUARY 12, 2016
MORRO BAY VETERAN’S HALL
209 SURF STREET – 4:00 P.M.

PRESENT:	Jamie Irons	Mayor
	Christine Johnson	Councilmember
	Matt Makowetski	Councilmember
	Noah Smukler	Councilmember
ABSENT:	John Headding	Councilmember
STAFF:	Dave Buckingham	City Manager
	Joe Pannone	City Attorney
	Dana Swanson	City Clerk
	Sam Taylor	Deputy City Manager
	Susan Slayton	Administrative Services Director
	Rob Livick	Public Works Director
	Scot Graham	Community Development Manager
	Eric Endersby	Harbor Director
	Amy Christey	Police Chief

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Irons established a quorum of the City Council, with Councilmembers Johnson, Makowetski and Smukler present, and called the meeting to order at 4:05pm.

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA ITEM:

- I. STUDY SESSION TO DISCUSS FY 16/17 PROGRAM OBJECTIVES ASSOCIATED WITH THE ADOPTED CITY GOALS
[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/3NDEA91TEWU?T=34S](https://youtu.be/3nDEA91TEWU?t=34S)

City Manager Buckingham opened his presentation with a brief overview of the discussion and approval process for FY 16/17 Program Objectives.

PUBLIC COMMENT RE: ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

<https://youtu.be/3nDEa91tEwU?t=9m42s>

The public comment period for Item I was opened.

Ric Deschler, Morro Bay, was hopeful the goals presented will address and find a solution to deal with solid waste, perhaps considering a regional plant with Los Osos.

KC Caldwell, Morro Bay, shared her areas of interest which fall under Goal 8 - Quality of Life:
1) address the aging tree population by reestablishing the tree committee and reviewing the tree

ordinance; 2) expand the public viewshed corridor, 3) underground transmission lines, and 4) develop a public art policy.

Robert Davis, on behalf of the Morro Bay Citizens Bike Committee, presented a list of needs for the next few years: 1) Class 1 bike path from near Lemos to Cloisters; 2) safety improvements at San Jacinto / Main to help Del Mar students cross safely; 3) Bike Friendly Community signage; 4) bike route signage on southbound Highway 1 near Yerba Buena; 5) secure bike parking at public buildings, commuter destinations, and business clusters to encourage commuting; and 6) traffic calming on San Jacinto.

Marlys McPherson, Morro Bay, would like the commitment to funding street repairs be a priority, including redirecting general fund monies, if necessary.

Walter Heath, Morro Bay, presented a list compiled by Citizens Beautification and Heritage Committee, including: permanent lighting in the downtown corridor street trees; approved design and locations for ten interpretative panels for the hidden history project--requesting \$10K in funding which is a 50% match; a signage program that includes wayfinding and street signs as well as design elements for commercial signage; and a “no smoking in public places campaign” to address cigarette butt pollution and enforcement of the existing ordinance.

Rigmore, Morro Bay, stated her support for underground utilities and providing designated smoking areas at public buildings.

Joan Solu, Morro Bay, suggested the public comment period follow staff presentations to allow the public to ask questions based on both the staff report and presentation. She also requested the expected cost be published once goals and objectives are established.

Lynda Merrill, Morro Bay, shared her top concern is fiscal solvency and how the City will continue to pay its employees’ salaries and retirement. In order to protect wildlife, she asked the Council to ban fireworks and eliminate hunting in the bay. She supported an Otter Appreciation Day, discouraged large hotels, suggested the City review and minimize signage and banners, and not to pursue Community Choice Aggregation at this time.

Glenn Silloway, Morro Bay resident and member of the Citizens Beautification and Heritage Committee, suggested the City consider the following objectives: include public benches and donated memorial benches in the Facilities Maintenance Program and Parks Master Plan; include public restroom and shower signage in the Facilities Maintenance Program and Parks Master Plan; convert the front lawn at the Veteran’s Hall to a garden place of honor and reflection; install a public view deck at the end of Surf Street; research the Caltrans approval process for a gateway mural at the Highway 1/41 overpass/underpass; replace the service organization sign located across from Lemos and the Welcome to Morro Bay sign to include plaques of service organizations and landscaping; review the Adopt-a-Park program and adopt best practices for participation; and establish a process for naming and renaming parks.

Dana McClish, Morro Bay resident, member of the Harbor Advisory Board and Chair of Marine Facilities Ad-hoc Committee, shared the Harbor Advisory Board’s list of top goals: 1) boatyard

haul out, 2) eelgrass review, 3) dredging the harbor entrance, channels and continued pursuit of State Park Marina dredging, 4) establishment of a marine research facility, 5) support for LEAP and other economic development efforts, 6) an Ad-hoc committee to conduct research and fact-finding on the marine sanctuary issue, 7) continued support for off-boat fish sales to the public, 8) develop a Harbor cost allocation budget, 9) assist in fact finding and decision making regarding Measure D.

The public comment period was closed.

Mr. Buckingham continued the staff presentation by reviewing each goal and the draft list of objectives under each goal, turning it over to Council for questions and comments between Goals. <https://youtu.be/3nDEa91tEwU?t=38m59s>

Goal #1 – Develop New WRF

Responding to public comment, Councilmember Smukler noted the analysis of on-site composting and other options will be presented for Council consideration. He also requested other water reclamation options be included as an objective to take advantage of opportunities as they come forward. He and Councilmember Johnson suggested staff add improving influent quality as an objective. There was Council consensus to include the Morro Basin Management Plan, including assessment of potential funding opportunities, under Goal 9.

Goal #2 - Improve Streets

Councilmember Johnson confirmed the discussion of street funding initiatives will come to Council in March 2015. The 2-year pavement management plan will be added as a FY 16/17 objective and presented to PWAB and Council.

Councilmember Smukler requested the specific projects recommended by the Bike Committee and Citizens Beautification Committee be included, along with detail on which items are achievable.

Goal #3 – Review and Update Significant City Land Use Plans

Mayor Irons wanted to ensure an increase in the GP/LCP work scope doesn't delay the completion of the project beyond the stated time frame.

As suggested by the Harbor Advisory Board, the marine facility master plan will be added to the list of potential objectives for 2016/17.

Goal #4 – Maintain Core Public Safety Services

The Council is pleased to see CERT training continue and suggests using all available methods to educate the public.

Goal #5 – Ensure Fiscal Sustainability

Mayor Irons and Councilmember Johnson suggested a discussion on RV camping areas may naturally evolve out of the General Plan update and should be removed from the list.

Staff confirmed several budget policies were addressed last year, so the goal this year is to review older resolutions along with current policies and merge them into one document. Staff will also investigate online budget transparency tools.

Goal #6 – Support Economic Development

The Council suggested a public workshop to educate businesses on the opportunity of creating a BID and allow interest to evolve from within the industry and not be driven by the City.

Councilmember Johnson suggested Business Community Partnerships and Business Support Services might be further refined and possibly combined. She was also pleased to see further discussion on a Commercial Real Estate Inventory, which Mayor Irons recommended include the allowable uses for each property.

Councilmember Makowetski confirmed an Economic Development Code Scrub would go along with the GP/LCP update, as well as through the Economic Development Strategic Plan review and adoption. In response to questions about the Maritime Museum, Mr. Buckingham noted that in the near-term they will move boats and install a temporary building; while the long-term project includes a permanent facility and must be synchronized with nearby property uses.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Recorded by:

Dana Swanson
City Clerk