

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JOINT SAND CITY COUNCIL AND SUCCESSOR AGENCY
OF THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

Special Meeting – January 8, 2019
6:00 PM
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Mayor Carbone opened the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

The Mayor confirmed the attendance of the candidates for City Council.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Brian Ferrante.

Present: Mayor Mary Ann Carbone
Vice Mayor Blackwelder
Council Member Hawthorne
Council Member Sofer

Staff: Fred Meurer, Interim City Administrator
Vibeke Norgaard, City Attorney
Leon Gomez, City Engineer
Brian Ferrante, Police Chief
Charles Pooler, City Planner
Connie Horca, Deputy City Clerk

AGENDA ITEM 4, COMMUNICATIONS

6:03 P.M. Floor opened for Public Comment.

There were no comments from the Public.

6:03 P.M. Floor closed to Public Comment.

AGENDA ITEM 5, NEW BUSINESS

- A. Council Member Vacancy – Interview of Applicants who have Submitted Letters of Interest to Fill Vacant Council Seat: Discussion regarding Filling Vacant Council Position: Direction to Staff**

Interim City Administrator Fred Meurer commented that due to the time which has elapsed, the decision to select a Council Member is up to the Mayor. The Mayor has decided to have this meeting with Members of the City Council to hear their individual questions. The City Attorney will draw names and the Council Members may ask the candidates questions. The

Mayor will take into consideration the resumes and answers to questions presented tonight, and will inform us of when and how her decision will be made.

Mayor Carbone announced that the meeting tonight will replace the vacancy resulting from the resignation of Council Member McDaniel effective October 15, 2018. The City Charter indicates that the remaining Council members can make an appointment by December 19th or if no appointment is made, the Mayor can make the appointment. The Mayor had decided to receive Council input from the Council members prior to making an appointment.

City Attorney Norgaard added that the vacant Council seat will be for the remainder of the term through December 2020.

Council Member Hawthorne remarked that he was glad to receive responses from people interested in serving the City as a Council Member. Your decision will affect the City and serving as a Council member is a positive role. Whether individuals are chosen or not, the Council would like to see more resident participation.

Mr. Meurer added that each individual will have five minutes to make a presentation and the Council can ask questions thereafter.

6:07 p.m. Thomas Batcha

Thomas Batcha commented that he loves Sand City and it is a good place to live and work. He is a good problem solver and enjoys technical details. As a resident he understands that the City is an artist community and would like to continue to foster the City's creativity. His desire would be to make improvements to the bike path, have more access to beaches, and to provide additional parking for the City. Installation of solar panels to the desalination plant would help with its operational costs. As a Council Member whose desire is to serve the rapidly growing community, he would prepare himself by reading and understanding what the problem is. As a listener, he can be fair and impartial in making decisions while taking into consideration the suggestions of the public. The way to take suggestions from multiple sources would be to dive into details. His experience in the daily operations of running a small business provides him with the experience in the budget process, and added that he understands the cost of undergrounding utilities. Mr. Batcha remarked that he does have time to sit on multiple boards and attend meetings as he is currently retired.

6:27 p.m. Kim Scudder

Kim Scudder commented that the Sand City water supply project has allowed for growth. She agrees with the City's General Plan that seeks to build the hotel, and desires to see the Monterey Bay Shores Ecoresort development constructed and opened for business. As a worker bee, she has assisted her hospital in achieving accreditation, spending 12 years

managing a 46 bed inner City psychiatric unit, and trained new employees. She is also a certified C.E.R.T volunteer for the County of Monterey. She sits with the dying and held memorial services with the departed. In talking to neighbors regarding traffic, noise, and growth issues, these concerns have been faced and viable solutions established. In speaking with the Mayor, the goals for Sand City are healthy goals, foreseeable, and attainable. She is inspired to help Sand City in any way she can and to serve on the City Council.

Ms. Scudder responded that to diversify for long range planning, the City would need to bring in more revenue through its 12% hotel use tax. The Ecoresort is a positive thing for the City, and expressed her concerns that the South of Tioga project does seem too big. Congestion, traffic, and the vibration of the development pose some concerns. To diversify, we can ask people in Sand City how they would like to see the City change. A hotel would be a good idea but may need modification. To prepare herself to represent Sand City's diverse community, she would conduct surveys. It would give one time to develop questions, receive answers, and share their perspective. Making an informed decision is synonymous to family meetings. She received her disaster training from the City of Monterey and further explained what the CERT huts contained, how CERT in Monterey can educate Sand City in being prepared for disasters, and the importance of having an evacuation plan for Sand City. In response to her availability, Ms. Scudder replied that she has seniority at her hospital, can make her own hours, and has the ability to attend meetings.

6:45 P.M. Craig Hubler

Craig Hubler commented that he has had the privilege to hear from some of the finest people in Sand City tonight. Serving in the City and on the Council, an individual has to remain open to everyone. Sand City is one of the finest towns anywhere its size belies the different issues faced, and has not expected in all his life to serve on the City Council for such a long time. In response to Council Member Sofer's question regarding making a decision when conflicting ideas are thrown at you, he responded that it may seem like a daunting task, but one has to think on their feet while remaining fair, and impartial to those who come before the Council. It is a great task and responsibility to think of these things. There is a delicate balance in working, serving, and living here. He has served in different capacities as a former City Council member and member of the Sand City Arts Committee. If it is the Council's pleasure to appoint him he would willingly serve and put in the time.

Regardless of the Council's decision, he will be volunteering to facilitate the West End Celebration this year, and it will be something he plans to do as long as he lives in Sand City. In response to his availability, Mr. Hubler remarked that he has the flexibility to make his own hours. He would be willing to put aside the time to go to meetings and serve in that capacity. The City has an excellent Staff that provides him a heads up as much as possible.

6:54 P.M. Shannon Sullivan

Shannon Sullivan commented that she is a California native, was raised in Watsonville, and as a resident of Monterey County has a deep rooted love for Sand City. There is much to contemplate to protect the character, long term financial health, and prosperity of its residents. She believes that her background in public and private sector experience can be leveraged by serving on the City Council. She is currently planning and managing a budget of over \$2 million and oversees a Staff of 30 people. As a Human Resources Executive, Ms. Sullivan has experience in personnel recruitment and can assist the City in the recruitment for a City Administrator. She is committed to long term residency, and understands the City's intention to grow. Her greatest goal in being considered for the Council seat would be to give of her time, energy, and passion to the Sand City community to create a positive life.

In response to the question regarding Sand City's progress, Ms. Sullivan responded that she does not fully understand all the details regarding the City's desire to move forward. Coming to Sand City is very special and in order for the community to flourish, decisions have to be made for growth and expansion, and would like to better understand the decision towards growth and its impacts. Although not experienced in government, she would like to understand the requirements, and does have the time and interest to offer. There may be time's that there would be travel or work related conflicts, but she can manage and prioritize her time for Council meetings. Ms. Sullivan indicated that in order to learn about people and the community, one needs to talk to neighbors and know them, frequent the businesses, have a natural curiosity about things, and balance intrinsic activities for the community you represent, as well as investing the time to research, read, and invest time. Before making an informed decision, one has to have varied skills in listening. When done listening, you have to ask questions to be able to engage and deploy. She added that her expertise would involve the realm of budget and personnel management where she would have the capacity to make the best contribution. Often, it comes down to what is the best match, and that someone's passion may often supersede their expertise.

7:11 P.M. Michael Green

Michael Green commented that he has been a resident of Sand City for five months, and after receiving the letter, he wanted to serve on the Council to represent people his age. He enjoys his time in the City and has relocated to the area. Evening commitments are no problem with his schedule and has time to contribute to City Council meetings. Mr. Green was encouraged by Council Member Hawthorne to get involved in Committees, to talk with the Mayor regarding politics, and how the City operates. In response to Council Member Sofer's question regarding how he would get to know about the layers of the City, Mr. Green responded that he makes an active effort in speaking with his neighbors, and frequents the business owners during his walks. His skills in making an

informed decision revolves around his expertise in dealing with three (3) different departments and working with them at once. Each department would have separate complaints, ideas, and policy changes. He possesses inventory and profit management skills and sees himself in the area of budgeting, where he can make a positive contribution. His schedule would allow him to be available to attend Council meetings. The Mayor encouraged Mr. Green to attend the annual City barbeque to get to know the residents in the City.

7:18 P.M. Dawn Peters

Dawn Peters commented that she has been a resident at the Independent for 2 years and previously lived on Ortiz Avenue. She is a current member of the Sand City Arts Committee, and manages a social media account for the Arts Committee with the intent to combine the arts with the City. She has over 20 years of experience in strategic sales and accounts, and has created a product that is part mixed media and passive technology, as well as running a private concierge service business in the area. Besides serving as a member of the Arts Committee, Ms. Peters expressed her interest in serving on the Housing Committee considering the growth Sand City is experiencing. She supports the residential and commercial growth and development of the City as well as the arts. She believes the City's General Plan is going in the right direction and would like to see it continue.

Ms. Peters remarked that she manages her own schedule and would have time to serve on the Council and other committees. As part of the Arts Committee she already possesses a good foundation. In response to Council member Sofer's question regarding what people may need in the community, Ms. Peters remarked that she is in support of mixed use and when a concept of a pop-up occurred, she learned that behind the business owners, they also possess varied skills. She is good at listening, is very analytical, and can break things down. Ms. Peter's defined that an on demand concierge service includes composing letters, prepare mailings, ship products, and other various services on an as needed basis. Her passion would involve the area of how to generate revenue, and affordable housing issues.

7:33 P.M. Kim Cruz

Kim Cruz commented that she has lived in Sand City for over 20 years and is a lifelong resident of the area but had accepted jobs in Silicon Valley when the economy took a downturn, and commuted in order to support her family. She was voted to the Board of the Professional Women's Network for both the Cities of Salinas and Monterey. Following a tenure working for a produce company, she retired from the industry, and is now ready to be very involved in the community. She has attended all the meetings for the South of Tioga project, and found that compromises were made regarding the project to benefit its progress towards development, and anticipates the community doubling again.

Ms. Cruz expressed that having worked in procurement and sales for a large company, it teaches you to listen to both sides and not to make blind decisions that would enable her to make good decisions for the people and community of Sand City. Change is sometimes hard to bear, but change does make for a better place. The South of Tioga project would lend for improvement of outdoor accessibility especially in areas where there is not enough walking paths, and a mixed-use development would make for a more vibrant community. The new project may offer itself in creating the community feeling that Sand City is known for.

The Mayor commented that she will personally review all the applicants and consider all responses. There are several Boards and Committees that individuals can participate in, and invited the applicants to consider being more involved in the community and to serve on Committees.

Ms. Sofer mentioned that an election will be held in 2020 and those persons who did not get chosen have the choice to run for office. Getting involved within the City would be a good place to start.

The Mayor thanked the applicants for their interest and love for the City.

AGENDA ITEM 6, ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Special City Council meeting was made by Council Member Hawthorne, seconded by Council Member Sofer. There was consensus of the Council to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 P.M.



Connie Horca, Deputy City Clerk