

**MINUTES
FREMONT CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 16, 2021
FREMONT CITY HALL
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM
7:00 P.M.**

1. PRELIMINARY

- A. Call to Order:** Mayor Mei called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
- B. Flag Salute:** Councilmember Jones led the salute to the flag.
- C. Roll Call:** Present: Mayor Mei, Vice Mayor Kassan, Councilmembers: Keng, Jones, Shao, Salwan, and Cox
- D. Announcements by Mayor/City Manager**

Mayor Mei announced the Boards and Commissions vacancies.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

- * **A. Waive Reading of Ordinances:** The City Attorney read the titles of ordinances to be considered.

On a motion by Councilmember Salwan, seconded by Councilmember Jones, the City Council waived further readings of proposed ordinances.

Ayes:	Mayor Mei, Vice Mayor Kassan, Councilmembers: Keng, Jones, Shao, Salwan, and Cox
Noes:	None
Absent:	None
Abstain:	None

- * **B. Approval of Minutes – None.**
- * **C. Mayor Mei opened consideration of Selection of the Vice Mayor for the Period Covering March 2021 through November 2021**

On a motion by Councilmember Salwan, seconded by Councilmember Jones, the City Council appointed Councilmember Yang Shao as the Vice Mayor for the period covering March 2021 through November 2021.

Ayes: Mayor Mei, Vice Mayor Kassan, Councilmembers: Keng,
Jones, Shao, Salwan, and Cox
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

*** D. Mayor Mei opened consideration to Approve the Closeout of Completed Capital Projects and Partial Defunding of Selected Projects; and Approval of Fund Transfers and Appropriations.**

On a motion by Councilmember Salwan, seconded by Councilmember Jones, the City Council approved the following actions:

1. Approved the closeout of the capital projects identified on Exhibit A - Project Closeout List and return the remaining project appropriations to available fund balance in their respective funds.
2. Approved the defunding of the capital projects identified on Exhibit B - Project Defund/Reallocate List and return the remaining project appropriations to available fund balance in their respective funds.
3. Approved appropriation and transfer of closed and defunded funds to eligible funds/projects identified on Exhibit C - Project Appropriation List.

Ayes: Mayor Mei, Vice Mayor Kassan, Councilmembers: Keng,
Jones, Shao, Salwan, and Cox
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

*** E. Mayor Mei opened consideration to Adopt a Resolution to Authorize the City Manager or his designee to submit a grant application to the State of California for the Per Capita Program to fund the Central Park Path: Senior Center to Lions Picnic Area and Fremont Community Center project (PWC 9004); to appropriate any grant funds if received; and to consider a finding that the project is qualified for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemptions, and no further environmental review is required.**

On a motion by Councilmember Salwan, seconded by Councilmember Jones, the City Council approved the following actions:

1. Found that the project is qualified for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemptions pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301(c), 15305, 15323, and 15183, and no further environmental review is required.
2. Adopted Resolution 2021-11 approving the submittal of a grant application to the Per Capita Program of the State of California Natural Resources Agency Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Grants and Local Services and authorizing the City Manager or designee to execute all necessary applications, contracts, agreements, amendments,

payment requests, and any other implementing documents, and to implement and carry out the purposes specified in the grant application and Procedural Guide.

3. If a grant is awarded to the City of Fremont by the State, Council authorizes the appropriation of the grant funds to the Central Park Path: Senior Center to Lions Picnic Area and Fremont Community Center project (PWC9004-525).

Ayes: Mayor Mei, Vice Mayor Kassan, Councilmembers: Keng,
Jones, Shao, Salwan, and Cox
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

3. CEREMONIAL ITEMS – None.

4. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

A. Oral and Written Communications

Email submitted to the City Clerk were compiled, distributed to the City Council and staff, and published in the City's Agenda Center on fremont.gov, and were placed on file.

John Bueno, Sharon Scharff, Al Bito and Blaire Beekman shared a variety of comments and concerns.

5. SCHEDULED ITEMS

- A. **Mayor Mei opened consideration of a Public Hearing (Published Notice) to Consider a First-Party Appeal of a Historical Architectural Review Board's Action Not to Approve an Application for Historical Architectural Review (PLN2020-00254) to Allow the Construction of a New Two-Story, Single Family Residence with a New Detached Garage Proposed Behind an Existing One-Story 550-Square-Foot Cottage Constructed in 1900 that has been Determined Not to Be a Potential Register Resource Located in the Mission San Jose Historical Overlay District, Bryant Street Neighborhood Conservation District, of the Mission San Jose Community Plan Area, and to Consider a Categorical Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guidelines Sections 15303 (a) and (e), as the Project Involves Construction of One Single-Family Residence and There Would Be No Potential Impacts to Historical Resources and the Project Will Not Have a Significant Effect on the Environment Due to Unusual Circumstances.**

*This item was added to the Consent Calendar.

On a motion by Councilmember Salwan, seconded by Councilmember Jones, the City Council approved the following actions:

1. Held a public hearing.
2. Found that the Project is Categorically Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15303(a) and (e), New

Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, because the project only involves the construction of one new two-story single-family residence, and a new two-car garage, and there would be no potential impacts to historical resources, and the project will not have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

3. Approved the application for Historical Architectural Review, as depicted in Exhibit "A" and based upon the findings and subject to conditions of approval as shown in Exhibit "B."

Ayes: Mayor Mei, Vice Mayor Shao, Councilmembers: Keng, Jones, Kassan, Salwan, and Cox
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

B. Mayor Mei opened consideration of a Public Hearing (Published Notice) to Consider an Annual Report on the Status of Implementation of the General Plan and the 2015 – 2023 Housing Element, and to Consider an Exemption from the Requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378 in that the Annual Report Does Not Meet CEQA's Definition of a "Project."

Planning Planner II Courtney Pal and Planning Planner II Hang Zhou gave a presentation.

Mayor Mei opened the public comment period. There being no speakers, Mayor Mei closed the public comment period. The Councilmembers provided questions and comments to staff.

On a motion by Councilmember Salwan, seconded by Councilmember Shao, the City Council approved the following actions:

1. Found the annual report was exempt from, and not subject to the requirements of, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to, without limitation, CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5), in that the annual report does not meet CEQA's definition of a "project," and as a separate and independent basis, CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) (no possibility of significant environmental effect).
2. Accepted Exhibit A and Exhibit B, which depict the current status of the General Plan and Housing Element, and direct staff to submit the required materials to OPR and HCD.

Ayes: Mayor Mei, Vice Mayor Shao, Councilmembers: Keng, Jones, Kassan, Salwan, and Cox
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

6. REPORT FROM CITY ATTORNEY – None.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Mayor Mei opened consideration of Consideration and Adoption of the 2021 Legislative Guiding Principles and Priorities

Deputy City Manager Christina Briggs introduced the item and Management Analyst II Amanda Gallo gave a presentation.

Mayor Mei opened the public comment period. The following person commented on the 2021 Legislative Guiding Principles and Priorities: Sonia Khan. There being no additional speakers, Mayor Mei closed the public comment period. The Councilmembers received the presentation and provided feedback to staff on the 2021 Legislative Guiding Principles and Priorities.

On a motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Salwan, the City Council adopted the 2021 Legislative Guiding Principles and Priorities and authorize the Mayor to transmit documents that are consistent with these guiding principles and priorities.

Ayes:	Mayor Mei, Vice Mayor Shao, Councilmembers: Keng, Jones, Salwan, and Cox
Noes:	Councilmember Kassan
Absent:	None
Abstain:	None

8. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

A. COUNCIL REFERRALS – None.

B. Oral Reports on Meetings and Events

Councilmembers reported on their various meetings and activities.

9. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Mayor Mei adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Susan Gauthier, City Clerk

LILY MEI, Mayor