

**CAPITOLA CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2020 - 5 PM**

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CAPITOLA CITY COUNCIL**

**1. ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council Member Ed Bottoff: Remote, Council Member Jacques Bertrand: Remote, Council Member Sam Storey: Remote, Mayor Kristen Petersen: Remote, Vice Mayor Yvette Brooks: Remote.

**2. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

A. Item 5.A – four public comment emails

**3. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

**4. CITY COUNCIL / CITY TREASURER / STAFF COMMENTS**

Vice-Mayor Brooks asked that the County Health Officer be asked about the current beach closure. The Vice-Mayor also announced her support for the Black Lives Matter movement and the Capitola Police Department.

Mayor Petersen also spoke of support for the Black Lives Matter movement and recognized the current National turmoil.

**5. GENERAL GOVERNMENT / PUBLIC HEARINGS**

A. Hearing on the Implementation of the Soquel Creek Management Plan

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Provide direction to staff on implementation of the Soquel Creek and Lagoon Management Plan for summer 2020 including closure of the Soquel Creek to form the lagoon, grading Capitola Beach and associated changes to the proposed 2020-21 Fiscal Year budget.

Public Works Director Jesberg presented the staff report on the Soquel Creek Management Plan and highlighted why it was not included in the initial budget draft.

Councilmember Storey said he was concerned about enforcement of the beach closure if the beach is made larger and more inviting. He asked if it is likely the closure will be lifted, to which Staff replied there has been no indication that it would be.

Vice-Mayor Brooks asked if the beach would be safe for the Junior Guards program if left ungraded. Director Jesberg said yes, and that the primary part of the Management Plan is filling in the creek and creating the lagoon; sifting of the sand will happen regardless of implementing the Management Plan this year. Vice-Mayor Brooks asked about smells due to not filling the creek; Director Jesberg said the chances of bad smells are higher if the lagoon is not created. In response to a question, Staff explained that under usual circumstances remaining funds would be returned to the General Fund.

Mayor Petersen clarified that the beach would be cleaned even without implementing the usual Management Plan. In response an additional question, Staff said that the Plan could be

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implemented before the start of the Junior Guards program.

During public comment:

A caller asked that Council focus on the environmental benefits of implementing the Plan, not those of recreation. The caller also requested a special meeting on the topic of Police culture in the local area.

Julie Kenney said she cannot walk safely from one end of the beach to the other and urged Council to approve the Management Plan.

There were two public comments emailed to Council advocating for the Creek Management Plan. A third email asked Council to leave the beach and lagoon as is for the season and not move forward with the Plan.

Mayor Petersen asked Staff to clarify that the Junior Guard program would only operate during the hours that the Capitola Beach is considered open under the current Health Order. She also asked if the City owns grading equipment and was told by Staff that City equipment is used, and beach cleaning can be done by Public Works employees at no extra cost. Director Jesberg explained that closing the lagoon would be less effective the longer we wait.

In response to an earlier public comment, the City Manager clarified that the City does not put chemicals in the lagoon.

Councilmember Bottorff addressed the following concerns if the lagoon is not closed: the impact to fish and wildlife and increased odor. He acknowledged the City's financial situation and said that in his opinion, the Management Plan is an essential activity.

Councilmember Bertrand agreed that the Management Plan is necessary for the local community and announced support for moving it forward.

Councilmember Storey explained his opinion that more space on the beach is necessary to encourage social distancing. He recommended using Contingency Funds to pay for the Management Plan.

<b>MOTION:</b>	<b>APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SOQUEL CREEK MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR SUMMER 2020, AND THE 2021 COSTS, USING CONTINGENCY RESERVE FUNDS</b>
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>AMMENDED</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Sam Storey
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jacques Bertrand

Councilmember Bertrand had Director Jesberg confirm that the creek monitoring costs would be truncated since they would be monitoring for a shorter time period than typical.

Vice-Mayor Brooks confirmed that the Park Avenue Sidewalk project has a remaining fund balance of \$64,000 and that utilizing those funds would not be taking any away from the project. She proposed an amendment to the motion.

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<b>MOTION:</b>	<b>APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SOQUEL CREEK MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR SUMMER 2020, AND THE 2021 COSTS, USING THE CURRENT FUND BALANCE FROM THE PARK AVENUE SIDEWALK CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT</b>
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Sam Storey
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jacques Bertrand
<b>AYES:</b>	Bottorff, Bertrand, Storey, Petersen, Brooks


**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was closed at 6:04 PM.

**APPROVED JUNE 25, 2020**

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Kristen Petersen, Mayor

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Chloé Woodmansee, Interim City Clerk