

**CAPITOLA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Bertrand called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

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

No members of the public were present and the Council adjourned to the City Manager's Office with the following item to be discussed in Closed Session:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Gov't. Code § 54956.9(d)(2).
(two potential cases)

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CAPITOLA CITY COUNCIL - 7 PM

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. PRESENTATIONS

A. Update from the Soquel Union Elementary School District Regarding Bond-Funded Projects

Superintendent Scott Turnbull, Business Official Michelle Kennedy and Facility Manager Jim Dupree presented the update on projects funded by the November 2016 passage of a \$42 million bond. Mr. Turnbull thanked the community for the 72 percent voter approval to replace aging-out classrooms. The goal is to finish all projects by August 2019 and it looks likely the district will make the deadline.

Ms. Kennedy explained 33 new classrooms will replace 39 portables, some as old as 40 years. About 30 percent of the bond funds, \$12.5 million, will go to improvements at New Brighton Middle School including a new art studio and woodshop, dance and weight room, and locker rooms. Mr. Dupree gave an overview and shared images of the projects. Updates include sliding white boards and TVs in each classroom. They confirmed that the district will hold a community open house once the facilities are open.

3. REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

Deputy City Attorney Reed Gallogly said the Council received reports on two items and took no reportable action.

4. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A. Item 9.A – Two public comment emails

B. Item 9.C – Five public comment emails

5. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA – None

beach towns makes them look "muddy." He has not heard visitors complain about the lighting.

Josh Fisher, Left Coast Sausage Works and resident, echoed concerns about longevity of previous lights and would like to see the rope lights expanded.

Council Member Bottorff noted that following the installation of the rope lights there was a lot of public discussion. Social media discussion appears the majority of area residents disapprove. He served as a liaison with the BIA and the issue was never voted on by the BIA board. He brought forth the issue to determine how much control the City has over the Village appearance, and noted enhancements are to be funded by the new transient occupancy tax (TOT). Is this permanent light the look that the City wants? He would like to see a policy or ordinance.

Council Member Brooks said she appreciates efforts to improve the Village, but feels direction is needed before any expansion and future TOT use. She would support keeping the lights until a process created.

Council Member Petersen also does not favor immediate removal of the lights and supports collaboration. She does not want to over-regulate decoration of the businesses' private property.

Council Member Storey noted this discussion would not have come up if there were not complaints. He supports an ongoing partnership with the BIA and a process that only addresses lights and other decorations in public spaces for the look and feel of the community. He added that variety and newness is often attractive to visitors.

Mayor Bertrand would support a formal process for a partnership.

Council Member Bottorff made a motion:

- Leave current lights up for comparison with other options
- Install no additional lights on other trees
- Install at city expense on one tree soft rope lights as comparison
- Direct staff for to create a policy on Village enhancements on public property
- Encourage the BIA to enlist a new Council representative

City Manager Goldstein suggested a policy similar to that for special events, with initial Council approval for new efforts and staff-level approval if there are no changes. Removal of lights would be addressed when a policy is adopted.

Council Member Brooks said the trial lights should be paid from TOT, but staff noted it is a small cost and more expeditious to take from the City's budget.

An amendment to allow for a few trial types of lighting was accepted, with the trials determined by the Public Works Department for optimal comparison. Council also agreed that the existing lights will be maintained during the policy development and trial period. Council Member Petersen asked that options for different colors or adjusted brightness be considered if they are available.

MOTION:	DIRECT STAFF TO: 1. LEAVE CURRENT LIGHTS UP FOR COMPARISON 2. INSTALL NO ADDITIONAL LIGHTS ON OTHER TREES 3. INSTALL COMPARISON LIGHTS AT CITY EXPENSE 4. DEVELOP A POLICY ON VILLAGE ENHANCEMENTS ON PUBLIC PROPERTY 5. ENCOURAGE THE BIA TO ENLIST A NEW COUNCIL MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE
RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Ed Bottorff, Council Member
SECONDER:	Sam Storey, Council Member
AYES:	Brooks, Bottorff, Storey, Petersen, Bertrand

D. Consider an Agreement with the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission for Bicycle Wayfinding Signage

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Consider approval of a memorandum of understanding with the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission for installation and maintenance of regional bicycle route signage within the City of Capitola.

Director Jesberg presented the staff report, explaining and offering images of the proposed “destination” and “confirmation” signs. He noted the City worked with the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) to reduce the number of signs and visual clutter.

Anais Schenk of the RTC explained the signage is important to bicyclists just as it is to drivers, but has differing placement needs. She noted cell phone navigation while riding is not safe. In response to Council Member Storey’s question, she explained the RTC developed preferred routes through the County to access key destinations by the safest routes. Council Member Storey expressed concern about safety on East Cliff Drive and Monterey Avenue. Director Jesberg said Cliff is safer than Wharf and noted there are not many options.

Ms. Schenk said the only existing signage is for the Pacific Coast Route, and some of those will be replaced based on evaluations to give riders more direction before intersections. Future review is always an option.

There was no public comment.

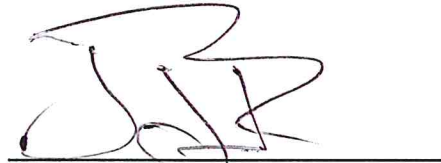
Council Member Storey does not support adding more signs to the community or the preferred routes.

Council Member Bottorff supports efforts to create a more bicycle friendly community across the county. Mayor Bertrand also agreed with the county efforts.

MOTION:	APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AS RECOMMENDED
RESULT:	ADOPTED [4 TO 1]
MOVER:	Ed Bottorff, Council Member
SECONDER:	Kristen Petersen, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Yvette Brooks, Ed Bottorff, Kristen Petersen, Jacques Bertrand
NAYS:	Sam Storey

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.



Jacques Bertrand, Mayor

ATTEST:



Linda Fridy, City Clerk**MINUTES APPROVED FEBURARY 28, 2019**