

MAY 2, 2017

INVOCATION:

Pastor Kelly Mossholder, of Santa Maria Foursquare Church, gave the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Councilmember Moats led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Patino called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilmembers Boysen, Cordero, Moats, Waterfield, and Mayor Patino.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

City Manager Haydon, City Attorney Trujillo, Director of Human Resources & Records Anderson, Fire Chief Champion, Director of Finance Harvey, City Librarian Housel, Director of Public Works Kahn, Police Chief Martin, Director of Community Development Ng, Recreation Services Manager Davis, Assistant City Attorney Sinco, Director of Utilities Springer, Deputy City Manager Stilwell, and Chief Deputy City Clerk Garietz.

1. PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:

A. PRESENTATION - WATER AWARENESS SCHOOL POSTER CONTEST WINNERS.

Water Conservation Specialist Myra Ritchie presented awards to the winners of the 8th Annual Water Awareness Month Poster Contest: Adolfo Ramos, Honorable Mention; Alejandra Aguilar, 3rd Place; Admarany Garcia, 2nd Place; and Vanessa Cortes, 1st Place.

B. PROCLAMATION – WATER AWARENESS MONTH

Councilmember Boysen presented a Proclamation in recognition of Water Awareness Month. Water Conservation Specialist Ritchie, accepted the Proclamation and spoke about various ways the Utilities Department promotes water conservation.

C. PROCLAMATION – DAY OF PRAYER

Councilmember Waterfield presented a Proclamation declaring May 4, 2017, as “Day of Prayer” in the City of Santa Maria, and encouraging people of all faiths to participate in Day of Prayer according to their own traditions. Kathy Staples accepted the Proclamation and invited everyone to join in the Day of Prayer luncheon on May 4th at 11:00 a.m. at the Santa Maria Fairgrounds.

D. PROCLAMATION – YOUTH WEEK

Councilmember Cordero presented a Proclamation declaring May 1 – May 7, 2017, as “Youth Week” in the City of Santa Maria, and encouraging residents and businesses to participate wholeheartedly in its observance. The Proclamation was accepted by Tony Dart.

E. PROCLAMATION – COMPOST AWARENESS WEEK

Councilmember Moats presented a Proclamation declaring May 7 - 13, 2017, as “Compost Awareness Week” in the City of Santa Maria, in recognition of the efforts of the composting councils, extension agents, householders, landscapers, farmers, recyclers, public workers, composters, gardeners, and plant growers everywhere. The Proclamation was accepted by Carl Engel of Engel & Gray, Inc. Mr. Engel

presented each Councilmember with a gift of a potted plant and invited everyone to a composting workshop Saturday, May 6, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Mussell Senior Center.

F. PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL POLICE WEEK AND PEACE OFFICERS’ MEMORIAL DAY

Councilmember Waterfield presented a Proclamation declaring May 14-20, 2017, as “National Police Week” and Wednesday, May 17, 2017, as “Peace Officers’ Memorial Day” in the City of Santa Maria, and encouraging all residents to remember those individuals who gave their lives in the line of duty and express appreciation to those who continue to dedicate themselves to making Santa Maria a safer place in which to live. The Proclamation was accepted by Officer Ronnie Murillo who invited the public to the Memorial Event on May 17, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. at the Santa Maria Police Department followed by a BBQ luncheon.

G. PROCLAMATION – GO RODEO DAYS

Mayor Patino presented a Proclamation declaring May 1 – June 4, 2017, as “Go Rodeo Days” in the City of Santa Maria, and encouraging all residents to enter into the rodeo spirit by wearing western apparel. The Proclamation was accepted by Phil Harwick, Santa Maria Elks Recreation – President. Mr. Harwick commented that the rodeo would be televised this year on national television and on wranglernet.com. Bob Orach invited everyone to join Elks activities and help promote the event with store-front decorations and window paintings in the spirit of the rodeo. Scott Parsons also invited everyone to come help with preparations on the rodeo grounds each Saturday at 8:00 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no requests to speak.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Consent Calendar Items 3A through 3H were approved on motion by Councilmember Boysen, seconded by Councilmember Waterfield, and carried on the following vote: 5-0

AYES: Councilmembers Boysen, Cordero, Moats, Waterfield, and Mayor Patino.
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

A. ORDINANCES

The reading in full of all ordinances and resolutions was waived. Ordinances on the Consent Calendar were adopted by the same vote cast at the first reading unless City Council indicated otherwise.

B. MINUTES OF APRIL 18, 2017

The Minutes of the regular Meeting of the City Council of April 18, 2017, were approved as submitted.

C. MINUTES OF APRIL 20, 2017

The Minutes of the special City Council Meeting of April 20, 2017, were approved as submitted.

D. WARRANTS

Warrant Nos. 206905 to 207172 totaling \$2,528,716.96 were ordered ratified subject to having been certified as being in conformity with the budget and having been approved for payment by the Director of Finance.

E. PAYROLL

Payment of payroll was ordered ratified subject to having been certified by the proper Department Heads, as shown on records on file in the Department of Finance and having been approved for payment by the Director of Finance.

F. 417 AND 501 BOONE STREET ZONING AMENDMENT

The City Council conducted the second reading and adopted Ordinance Nos. 2017-03 and 2017-04 amending the official zoning map on approximately 0.2 acres located at 501 East Boone Street from R-3 (High Density Residential) to (SP) Specific Plan; and Ordinance No. 2017-04 amending the Downtown Specific Plan to designate 1.4 acres to the Railroad Loft District, located at 417 and 501 East Boone Street.

Ordinance No. 2017-03 adopted. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP ON APPROXIMATELY 0.2 ACRES, LOCATED AT 501 EAST BOONE STREET.

Ordinance No. 2017-04 adopted. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE DOWNTOWN SPECIFIC PLAN FOR APPROXIMATELY 1.4 ACRES LOCATED AT 417 AND 501 EAST BOONE STREET.

G. SANTA MARIA MUNICIPAL CODE AMENDMENT REGARDING PRODUCE SALES

The City Council conducted the second reading and adopted Ordinance No. 2017-05 amending Chapters 12-35 and 12-43 of the Santa Maria Municipal Code to permit outdoor sales of produce in connection with community events.

Ordinance No. 2017-05 adopted. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTERS 12-35 AND 12-43 OF THE SANTA MARIA MUNICIPAL CODE TO PERMIT OUTDOOR SALES OF PRODUCE IN CONNECTION WITH COMMUNITY EVENTS.

H. MEASURE "A" FIVE-YEAR LOCAL PROGRAM OF PROJECTS

Resolution No. 2017-45 was adopted approving the Measure "A" Five-Year Local Program of Projects for Fiscal Years 2017-18 through 2021-22; and certifying that the City of Santa Maria will provide sufficient funding in the 2017-18 budget to meet the Measure "A" Maintenance of Effort requirement.

Resolution No. 2017-45 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE MEASURE A FIVE-YEAR LOCAL PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-18 THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2021-22

4. FORMATION OF DISTRICTS FOR DISTRICT-BASED ELECTIONS. The City Council held a public hearing pursuant to California Elections Code Section 10010 for public input regarding the proposed final map with the boundaries of the voting districts and the sequence of elections for future Council seats.

City Attorney Trujillo gave a presentation as detailed in the Council Agenda Report. Public Hearings regarding this item were held on March 7th, March 30th, and April 20th, in compliance with AB350. On April 20th at a Special City Council Meeting, the Council decided to adopt the four (4) district map concept with the following criteria: 1) each district must contain an equal population, 2) each district

must comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act; 3) each district must contain a portion of the Downtown Specific Plan; 4) consideration given to communities of interest and the historic division of the City at Broadway and Main; and 5) attempt to avoid head-to-head contests between Councilmembers, where possible. Based on this criteria, the Council narrowed down the list of map submissions to three (3) possibilities for consideration. Mr. Trujillo introduced Demographer Douglas Johnson with National Demographic Corporation who gave a brief overview of the final maps and sequence of elections the Council would be considering.

Mr. Johnson reminded everyone that simply dividing the City into four quadrants at Broadway and Main Streets would not work as the populations would be uneven. Therefore the map district borders have been adjusted to even out the populations between the districts. He also added that each map being considered had a corresponding statistics sheet providing information such as number of children in the home, renter populations versus homeowner populations, etc. Multi-family statistics referred to apartment buildings, not multi-families within one house.

With the four proposed districts, two Council seats will be up for elections in 2018 and the remaining two in 2020. He indicated that greater voter turnout could be expected during Presidential election years and lower voter turnout during non-presidential cycles. Staff's recommendation is that with the 2018 election, should Council choose Map H, Districts 3 and 4 would be up for election; should Council choose Map J, Districts 2 and 4 would be up for election in 2018; and should Council choose Map N, Districts 3 and 4 would be up for election in 2018.

Written communications.

Chief Deputy City Clerk Garietz indicated staff had received written communication from the Santa Barbara County Elections Office asking that priority be given to Map J-1, then N-1, and H-1 in that order based on keeping the impact to voters at a minimum. Kate Dudley wrote in support of Map J-1 saying that Maps H-1 and N-1 were examples of gerrymandering. James Miller expressed support for Map N-1 also saying that Maps J-1 and H-1 were examples of gerrymandering.

City Attorney Trujillo added that a letter had been received from MALDEF objecting to Map H-1 and urging the Council to adopt sequencing that placed at least one majority Latino district up for election in the 2018 elections.

Public Hearing

Mayor Patino opened the public hearing at 7:31 p.m.

Margarita Olimpo expressed her preference for Map J-1.

Raymond Segura expressed his preference for Map J-1 as it was most similar to the map previously submitted by CAUSE.

Kathy Sharum also spoke in support of Map J-1 saying it kept similar communities together.

Vibiana Saavedra spoke against Map N-1 saying it protected Councilmember seats and H-1, asking how anyone near Stowell would have any common interests with the Country Club. She expressed her support for Map J-1 saying it protected communities of interest and followed natural boundaries.

Connie Ford spoke in support of Map J-1 saying she believed it to be the least complicated map that met the criteria the Council considered important. She asked that the Council take into consideration future generations and the legacy it would be leaving them.

Rebekah Bourdons spoke in support of Map J-1.

Hazel Davalos spoke in support of Map J-1 saying that the California Elections Code and the California Voting Rights Act did not mention anything about continuity of governance and that carving out safe seats in future elections for City Councilmembers should never take priority over the representation of neighborhoods.

Judith Burch spoke in support of Map J-1 agreeing with the comments of Ms. Davalos.

Elizabeth Schneider spoke in support of Map J-1 saying it most accurately reflected the true neighborhoods of the City and that Maps H-1 and N-1 were examples of gerrymandering.

Sara Galindo spoke in support of Map J-1 saying Maps H-1 and N-1 were examples of gerrymandering.

Janet Cruz spoke in support of Map J-1 and said Maps H-1 and N-1 were examples of gerrymandering.

Joana Barrera spoke in support of Map J-1 saying she agreed with previous comments the other public speakers had made.

Abraham Melendrez spoke in support of Map J-1 saying Maps H-1 and N-1 were unacceptable as they were examples of gerrymandering and also split communities of interest.

Danny Mogg spoke in support of Map J-1 and expressed his concern that "continuity of government" was actually the manipulation of district boundary lines in anticipation of the next City Council election and made Map H-1 an example of gerrymandering. He said he believed everyone in the audience was asking for a fair voting map that provided a voice for each community and culture in the City.

David Dennis spoke in support of Map J-1 saying it met all the criteria the Council desired and suggested a fair election process for each Councilmember with the next election. He expressed concern over Map N-1 saying it split his neighborhood in half; and Map H-1 saying it created very uncompact, separate districts for current Councilmembers.

Gale McNeeley expressed his gratitude to the Council for their efforts. He spoke in support of Map J-1 saying the other maps divided the City's communities of interest. He also stated he hoped the City Councilmembers would always be elected and never just appointed to their seats.

Andy Watson spoke in support of Map J-1 saying he agreed with previous speakers.

Hearing no other requests to speak, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 8:06 p.m.

Council discussion

Councilmember Waterfield asked for clarification on the letter that had been submitted by MALDEF.

City Attorney Trujillo explained that MALDEF opposed Map H-1 on the grounds that District 3 disregarded communities of interest. Mr. Trujillo stated he believed the District to be legally defensible.

He went on to say the second part of the letter urged Council to select a majority Latino seat for 2018 rather than 2020. According to the Legislative history of AB350, the bill was created to avoid situations similar to what happened in the City of Anaheim where a majority Latino voting district was created during a mid-term election which traditionally has a lower turnout. The Latino population was upset and Anaheim responded by creating a Latino majority during a Presidential election to avoid facing a lawsuit. MALDEF's letter appeared to be contrary to what the history indicates. City Attorney Trujillo stated he had not had an opportunity to speak with a MALDEF representative for clarification.

Councilmember Waterfield commented on the fact that there had been previous concern over the renter versus homeowner populations in the City. She pointed out that Map N-1 more evenly distributed renter populations throughout the City.

Councilmember Boysen asked how the Council could NOT consider the continuity of government and still avoid head-to-head contests in running for office.

Demographer Johnson responded that the direction to allow for consideration of head-to-head contests came from the Supreme Court.

Councilmember Moats commented on the fact that the chosen map would only exist for three years, through the 2018 and 2020 elections and then the next Census would require that the district boundaries be redrawn at that point.

Demographer Johnson agreed.

Councilmember Cordero asked if any of the three maps had a more dramatic range in statistics over the other two.

City Manager Haydon pointed out that Map J-1 was the only map that paired Councilmembers in two districts while Maps H-1 and N-1 paired them in only one district.

Demographer Johnson added that on Map N-1, the border between Districts 2 and 4 was less disruptive to Santa Barbara County precincts which would be less disruptive to voters.

Councilmember Cordero asked for Demographer Johnson's input regarding the allegations that the current Councilmembers were trying to arrange the districts in order to protect themselves.

Demographer Johnson stated that the maps the National Demographics Corporation had created were drawn based on suggestions submitted by the public and that no input had been solicited from any individual Councilmembers.

Councilmember Waterfield asked City Attorney Trujillo to read again the five criteria the Council agreed upon at the last meeting.

City Attorney Trujillo stated that 1) each district must contain an equal population, 2) each district must comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act; 3) each district must contain a portion of the Downtown Specific Plan; 4) consideration be given to communities of interest and the historic division of the City at Broadway and Main; and 5) attempt to avoid head-to-head contests between Councilmembers, where possible.

Councilmember Cordero stated he supported Map N-1 as he believed it met more of desired criteria than the others. He also expressed his dislike of Map H-1. He then reiterated the fact that the maps were only applicable through 2020 and not into perpetuity like some of the speakers indicated.

Councilmember Moats indicated he did not believe renters versus homeowner populations should be a factor in deciding which map to implement. He added he did not support Map H-1 and that Map N-1 split the northern part of town into two, and the southern part of town into two. Map N-1 also concentrated the white populations into District 4 with a higher predominance than the other two maps. He stated he supported Map J-1 as it protected communities of interest, kept Latino populations together in the northern part of the City, respected the four quadrants of the City, had a District 3 with a high population of Latino voters and the likelihood that they would be able to elect the Hispanic candidate they chose. Map J-1 also appeared to have been drawn without concern for head-to-head incumbent contests and, therefore, had no specific special interests. He closed his remarks encouraging the Councilmembers to finish out their terms, avoid head-to-head contests and not run against each other in 2018.

Councilmember Waterfield stated she supported Map N-1 as it met all of the previously listed criteria and would have one majority Latino district up for elections in 2018, thus meeting MALDEF and CAUSE's requests.

Councilmember Boysen spoke in support of Map N-1 and said he favored avoiding head-to-head contests, and he believed the map met more of the criteria than the other two maps being considered.

Map N-1 was selected with Districts 3 and 4 Councilmember elections being held in 2018, on motion by Councilmember Waterfield, seconded by Councilmember Boysen, and carried on the following vote: 4-1

AYES: Councilmembers Boysen, Cordero, Waterfield, and Mayor Patino.
NOES: Councilmember Moats
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

5. AMENDMENT TO THE SANTA MARIA MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2-25 ESTABLISHING A BY-DISTRICT ELECTION PROCESS IN THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA. The City Council held a public hearing pursuant to California Elections Code Section 10010 to introduce an ordinance amending the Santa Maria Municipal Code Chapter 2-25 establishing a By-District Election Process.

City Attorney Trujillo gave a presentation as detailed in the Council Agenda Report. As of January 1, 2017, the California Government Code Section 34886 permits the City Council of a city to change the method of election by ordinance to a "by-district" system. The proposed ordinance will amend Chapter 2-25 of the Santa Maria Municipal Code establishing a By-District Election Process based on the previously presented Map N-1 districting map. New Section 2-25.04 would establish the 4-district map boundaries. New Section 2-25.05 would designate the sequence of elections being Districts 3 and 4 in 2018 and Districts 1 and 2 in 2020.

Written communications.

No other written communications were received, other than what was presented in Item 4.

Public Hearing

Mayor Patino opened the public hearing at 8:44 p.m., and immediately closed the public hearing after having no requests to speak.

Council discussion

There was no Council discussion.

Ordinance No. 2017-06 was introduced for first reading, and continued to the next meeting for second reading and adoption, amending the Santa Maria Municipal Code Chapter 2-25 establishing a By-District Election Process with district lines as specified on Exhibit Map N-1, on motion by Councilmember Waterfield, seconded by Councilmember Cordero, and carried on the following vote: 4-1

AYES: Councilmembers Boysen, Cordero, Waterfield, and Mayor Patino
NOES: Councilmember Moats
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Ordinance No. 2017-06 introduced. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING THE SANTA MARIA MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2-25 ESTABLISHING A BY-DISTRICT ELECTION PROCESS WITH DISTRICT LINES AS SPECIFIED ON EXHIBIT MAP N-1.

REPORT BY CITY MANAGER:

City Manager Haydon reported the next City Council meeting was scheduled for May 16, 2017, beginning at 6:30 p.m. and would be held in City Hall Council Chambers, instead of the Abel Maldonado Youth Center as previously reported. Items on the agenda would include a Public Convenience and Necessity Finding for alcohol sales at Target; a Summary Vacation of a portion of roadway easement at La Brea Avenue; the annexation and assessment of parcels into Landscape Maintenance Districts; the second reading of the ordinance regarding the district boundary map and the sequence of elections; the naming of a City Park after Bob Orach, and the 3rd Quarter Budget Report.

ORAL REPORTS OF COUNCILMEMBERS AND OFFICERS (INCLUDING AB1234 REPORTS):

Councilmember Boysen reported he attended a Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA) meeting. He commented that the State Water allocation to Santa Maria has been increased to 85 percent. He added the Board of Supervisors approved having the CCWA be the lead agency for the preparation of the CEQA document for the requested purchase of the 12,000 acre feet of suspended Table A water. He also thanked the community for participating in the recent Serve Santa Maria event.

Councilmember Waterfield reported that she presented a proclamation at the Elks Queen Kick-off Dinner; attended Comcast Care Day at Adams School; promoted the Santa Maria Police Council fundraiser on the Ben Heighes radio show (she invited everyone to the annual Police Council golf tournament on Monday, June 12); attended a CALM fundraising dinner; and a Lions Club event.

Councilmember Moats reported that he attended the Elks Queen Kick-off, the Brews & Cues fundraiser for the local Kiwanis group; the Boys & Girls Club Annual Auction; and a COLAB dinner.

Councilmember Cordero reported that he attended the Mayor's Task Force on Youth Safety Meeting;

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a SCORE Small Business Summit; a Tiny Houses meeting (proposed project regarding small homes for veterans); and the Boys & Girls Club Annual Auction.

Mayor Patino reported that she attended the Annual Victims' Rights Award Luncheon honoring SMPD Detectives; the monthly SBCAG Board and APCD Meetings; the Mayor's Task Force on Youth Safety Meeting (she extended an invitation to the public for the next meeting); a CADA Town Hall meeting at the Boys & Girls Club; a SCORE Small Business Summit; a Women's Luncheon at Merrill Gardens; the Santa Maria Valley Student Industry Collaboration event; a Boy Scouts monthly meeting; a Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley Monthly Board meeting; worked the CWA strawberry variety tasting booth at the Strawberry Festival; a United Ag Health Wellness ribbon-cutting; participated in Serve Santa Maria; attended the New Hope Baptist Church Scholarship luncheon; and attended a Gang Conference in Los Angeles.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the City Council, Mayor Patino declared the City Council meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m. in memory of Henry Grennan, former Recreation & Parks Commissioner.

APPROVED:

Date May 16, 2017

Rhonda M. Garietz, CMC
Chief Deputy City Clerk and ex officio Clerk of
the City Council

ATTEST:

Alice M. Patino
Mayor of the City of Santa Maria

Rhonda M. Garietz, CMC
Chief Deputy City Clerk