

MINUTES – CITIZENS FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING – August 20, 2024  
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL HALL – 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Stephen Peck Chair  
Michael Erin Woody Vice-Chairperson  
Brian Dorfman Committee Member  
Jean Johnson Committee Member

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Emily Conrad Finance Director  
Megan Schotborgh Accounting Manager  
Melissa Green Administrative Programs Manager

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER  
<https://youtu.be/ZUoLenzOgPE?si=O9380I73aGHfz6kn&t=16>  
Chair Peck called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. with all members present.

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS  
<https://youtu.be/ZUoLenzOgPE?si=WvRVY3PCyf6hO1a&t=37>  
Chair Peck announced that he would not be present at the October regular meeting.

BRIEF FINANCE DIRECTOR UPDATE  
<https://youtu.be/ZUoLenzOgPE?si=kTeXJiC6DVQMUK0z&t=55>

PUBLIC COMMENT  
[https://youtu.be/ZUoLenzOgPE?si=ok\\_BuLQCYz8tSYxA&t=273](https://youtu.be/ZUoLenzOgPE?si=ok_BuLQCYz8tSYxA&t=273)  
Chair Peck opened public comment; seeing no speakers, the Chair closed public comment.

A. CONSENT CALENDAR  
<https://youtu.be/ZUoLenzOgPE?si=2qkR4ZZeDQub1Swq&t=312>

A-1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MAY 21, 2024 CITIZENS OVERSIGHT/FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

MOTION: Member Johnson moved to approve minutes from the May 21, 2024 Citizens Finance Advisory Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Member Dorfman and carried 4-0.

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

B-1 INFORMATIONAL SESSION ON LOCAL TAXES LED BY KEN BROWN (HDL PRINCIPAL STAFF)  
<https://youtu.be/ZUoLenzOgPE?si=tInVVB6KGaQFIDmc&t=353>

Finance Director Conrad introduced the item and turned it over to Ken Brown with HdL to present the report and respond to Committee inquiries.

Public Comment:  
Homer Alexander, Morro Bay, inquired about the potential tax revenues the City could realize due to the proposed Vistra battery energy storage system project.

No formal action taken.

B-2 DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL CITY REVENUE GENERATION

<https://youtu.be/ZUoLenzOgPE?si=X5pzU4FiUknlhDwg&t=2843>

The committee discussed potential city revenue generation ideas and expressed interest in a future special meeting to form a subcommittee for additional research on this subject.

Public Comment:

Bill Bowes, Morro Bay, opined on the City's revenue generation history, beginning with the power plant. He cautioned against leaving that property vacant and encouraged CFAC to research options for commercial development with high revenue potential.

Homer Alexander, Morro Bay, provided recommendations regarding the City-owned Market Street area properties and supported a proposal to develop a full-service hotel and conference center there. Commented on differences between the City of Pismo Beach and Morro Bay's transient occupancy tax revenues, stating that the major difference between the two cities was the number of full-service hotels.

No formal action was taken.

B-3 FUNDING REQUEST – POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL (POLICE CHIEF WATKINS)

<https://youtu.be/ZUoLenzOgPE?si=ETARoor216xKJL7f&t=4271>

Police Chief Watkins presented the report and responded to Committee Member inquiries.

Public comment:

None

Motion: Vice Chair Woody moved to approve the request and recommend to Council to fund the existing Property and Evidence Clerk part-time permanent position from Measure E funds. Member Johnson seconded the motion which carried 4-0.

B-4 FUNDING REQUEST – FIRE DEPARTMENT

<https://youtu.be/ZUoLenzOgPE?si=wxhKcwq2EpD1jm-k&t=5261>

Fire Chief McCrain presented the report and responded to Committee Member inquiries.

Public comment:

None

Motion: Vice Chair Woody moved to approve the request and recommend to Council to fund the repair of the Fire ladder truck with the caveat that Council should consider alternative funding sources during their deliberations. The motion was seconded by Member Johnson.

Chair Peck requested a friendly amendment to include a provision that this action should not set a precedent for Measure E funding priorities.

Amended Motion: Vice Chair Woody moved to approve the request and recommend to Council to fund the repair of the Fire ladder truck with the caveat that Council should consider alternative funding sources during their deliberations and include a provision that this action should not set a precedent for Measure E funding priorities. The motion was seconded by Member Johnson.

The motion carried 4-0.

C. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

<https://youtu.be/ZUoLenzOgPE?si=5-8S36Slq1nZ8Wrl&t=6292>

1. Development Impact Fee Nexus Study and Fee Update Draft
2. Update on Citywide Capital Needs Assessment
3. Public Works presentation regarding State Revolving Fund financial strategy
4. Budget Development Timing and CFAC Engagement

D. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Citizen's Finance Advisory Committee meeting will be October 15, 2024 at 3:00 pm. Chair Peck repeated that he will not be present.

E. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Recorded by:

Melissa Green  
Administrative Programs Manager