

**CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA
CITY COUNCIL**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Byrne called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Roll call: Councilmembers Jeff Baron, Hans Buder, Alissandra Dramov, Mayor Pro Tem Delves, and Mayor Dale Byrne were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City Administrator Rerig led the pledge of allegiance.

EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS

A. Carmel High School Report Out - Juliette Norman, CHS Associate Student Body President, updated on events and happenings at the high school, such as Sober Grad Night, and thanked the City Council for the generous donation to support the event.

B. Pride Month Proclamation - Councilmember Baron read the Pride Month Proclamation.

C. Non-Profit Spotlight - Monterey Fire Fighters Community Foundation - Matt Murphy, Executive Community Outreach Director for MFCF, gave a presentation on the organization's mission and goals, which include fundraising and community events, to help people get to know their local firefighters, and improve public education on fire prevention and safety.

D. Receive an information report on the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea Vacancies Pursuant to Government Code Section 3502.3 (AB 2561) - Senior HR Analyst Marisa Bermudez gave a presentation on Assembly Bill 2561, which requires all public employers to disclose the status of vacancies, recruitment, and retention efforts before budget adoption. She presented on the number of full-time budgeted positions, vacancy information by bargaining units, recruitment and retention efforts.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

John Jarmillo

Nancy Twomey

Ian Martin

Ryan Heron

Sullivan Carey-Lang

Marnie Waffle
Ken White
Donna Jett
Karen Ferlito
Ken Spilfogel
Steven

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. City Administrator Announcements - Thanked Commander Trayer, Police Chief Tomasi, the VIPS, and CERT for the great pancake breakfast hosted by the Police Department. He thanked Bob Gotch for his 10 years of service on CERT. He said the CAWD lease discussion will be added to an upcoming open session meeting.

B. City Attorney Announcements - no reports.

C. Councilmember Announcements -

Councilmember Baron praised Public Works and Environmental staff for well-received workshops on Sea Level Rise and TAMC Vision Zero, and a presentation on the City's Climate Adaptation Plan at NASA ECHO Summer School.

Councilmember Buder thanked the Police Department, CERT, VIPS, and especially Commander Trayer, for the Pancakes with Police Breakfast. He also congratulated VIP Bob Gotch on 10 years of service and advocated for Saturday Library hours.

Councilmember Dramov reported there is a strip of land that is for sale south of the Frank Lloyd Wright House on Scenic and asked the City Attorney if the City could consider purchasing it. City Attorney Pierik said this would be appropriate to add to a future closed session for discussion if the Council wishes.

Mayor Pro Tem Delves and Mayor Byrne also thanked the Police Department for the Pancakes with Police event, and thanked CERT member Bob Gotch for his service to the community. Mayor Byrne thanked everyone for their input at the meeting last night during the discussion on parking solutions. He announced that the Public Works Department is partnering with Carmel Cares to repair and replace the fencing around Devendorf Park. He said the Monterey County Mayor's Meeting is being held on Friday in Carmel-by-the-Sea at Grasing's.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Item 1 - Resolution 2025-053 Adopting the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Appropriations Limit

Finance Manager Jayme Fields presented the purpose and background of the adoption of an annual appropriations limit.

Public comment: None

Motion by Councilmember Baron to adopt Resolution 2025-053 Adopting the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Appropriations Limit, seconded by Councilmember Buder, and approved 5-0-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmember Baron, Buder, Delves, Dramov, and Mayor Byrne

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Item 2 - Resolution 2025-052 Adopting the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Operating and Capital Budget

Finance Manager Fields presented the updates to the proposed FY 25-26 Operating and Capital Budget based on feedback and direction received from the Council at the May 21st budget workshop. She also noted that additional budget questions have been answered, and if approved tonight the proposed budget will go into effect July 1st. She answered questions from Council. City Administrator Rerig recommended that the Council give direction on whether to move some of the CIP projects to the end of the fiscal year or move certain projects to next fiscal year.

Public Comment:

Maria Ruess

Karen Ferlito

Melanie Billig

Council commended staff on the budget, recognizing its accuracy and highlighting the need for improved project management, increased revenue, and reduced costs. Mayor Pro Tem Delves favored cutting six non-urgent CIP projects, while Councilmembers Buder and Baron stressed the importance of road paving and finalizing the design guidelines. Mayor Byrne said he agrees with keeping all of the CIP projects on the list and noted some of the most urgent projects to keep an eye on. City Administrator Rerig said that staff are looking forward to coming back with quarterly financial updates and forecasts to keep the Council and public updated on the progress for CIP projects.

Motion by Councilmember Baron to adopt Resolution 2025-052 Adopting the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Operating and Capital Budget as presented, seconded by Councilmember Buder, and approved 5-0-0-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmember Baron, Buder, Delves, Dramov, and Mayor Byrne

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

RECESS

Council took a recess at 6:45 pm and resumed the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Item 3 - First reading and introduction of Ordinance No. 2025-002 amending Carmel Municipal Code Section 15.08.010 and Section 15.10.020 to adopt the 2025 Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map for the City as identified by the California State Fire Marshall in Accordance with Government Code Section 51178

Community Planning and Building Director Anna Ginette presented the item, summarizing that per Government Code section 51179 the City is required to adopt the State Fire Marshal's Updated Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map within 120 days. She added that regulations will apply following ordinance adoption, including vegetation management for both new and existing landscaping, as well as the hardening of new building structures against fire.

Public comment:

Karen Ferlito

Nancy Twomey

City Administrator Rerig said that at the last Council meeting a Fire Hazard Safety Task Force, consisting of Mayor Byrne, Councilmember Buder, Fire Chief Miller, Police Chief Miller, Community Planning and Building Director Ginette, Public Works Director Wysocki, Forest and Beach Commission Chair, Planning Commission Chair, and himself are working on gathering information on fire safety and prevention in the village, and will also hold public outreach and education meetings.

Councilmember Baron requested that the Task Force ad hoc committee publicly notice their meetings as special meetings of the City Council, allowing all councilmembers to attend. Councilmember Dramov expressed concern about the State potentially forcing the city to adopt this ordinance quickly and its impact on the village's character. She supports the Task Force in addressing these concerns, seeking a balance between fire safety and preserving village character, and researching grant opportunities to assist homeowners with home hardening. Mayor Pro Tem Delves supports the efforts of the Task Force.

Mayor Byrne requested that the City Attorney read the Ordinance title. City Attorney Pierik read the Ordinance title.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Delves to waive the full reading and introduce Ordinance No. 2025-002, seconded by Councilmember Buder, and approved 5-0-0-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmember Baron, Buder, Delves, Dramov, and Mayor Byrne

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Item 4 - First reading and introduction of Ordinance No. 2025-003 Adding Section 2.52.686 – (Paid Parental Leave) to the Carmel-by-the-Sea Municipal Code

Assistant City Administrator Brandon Swanson presented the item summarizing the proposed ordinance which would add Section 2.52.686 to the Municipal Code to provide 6 weeks of paid parental leave for the birth, adoption, or foster placement of a child. He answered questions from Council and emphasized that the benefit would be available to employees who have been with the City at least 1 year.

Public comment:

Donna Jett

Maria Ruess

Council supported the Ordinance but suggested removing the part in Section G that gives the City Administrator authority to revoke the policy. Council consensus direction was to change the length of the Paid Parental Leave to 8 weeks and specify that it would be supplemental and in addition to any other available leave such as SDI.

Council gave direction to return in July with another first reading incorporating the changes they agreed upon.

The Council supported the Ordinance but directed that Section G be amended to remove the City Administrator's authority to revoke the policy. Council gave consensus direction to amend the Ordinance to extend Paid Parental Leave to eight weeks, explicitly stating it would supplement other available leave pay, such as State Disability Insurance, if applicable. Council requested a revised first reading incorporating these changes be presented in July.

ORDERS OF BUSINESS

Item 5 - Resolution 2025-054 approving a 4.19% rate increase to charges by the City's franchised hauler, GreenWaste Recovery, for the collection of solid waste, recycling and organics, effective July 1, 2025, and approving Amendment No. 4 to the Memorandum of Understanding between ReGen Monterey and Member Agencies for Fiscal Year 2025/26

Environmental Programs Manager Mary Bilse gave a presentation on Senate Bill 1383, which allows for the City's franchise waste hauler to increase their rates, and the 2025 collection rate increase of 4.19% for FY 25-26.

Public comment: None

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Delves to adopt Resolution 2025-054 approving a 4.19% rate increase to GreenWaste Recovery and approving Amendment No. 4 to the MOU between ReGen Monterey for FY 25-26, seconded by
and approved 5-0-0-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmember Baron, Buder, Delves, Dramov, and Mayor Byrne

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Councilmember Buder and Mayor Byrne supported Councilmember Dramov's request to add a closed session item to a future meeting agenda to discuss the purchase of public land near the Frank Lloyd Wright House.

Councilmember Buder requested that the ADU Ordinance and Objective Design Guidelines be brought to the Planning Commission and then to the Council for approval in an expedited manner. Mayor Byrne concurred with this request.

CLOSED SESSION

A. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.6

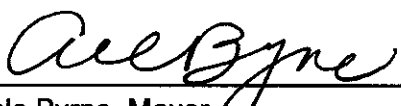
Agency Designated Representatives: City Administrator Chip Rerig Assistant City Administrator Brandon Swanson City Attorney Brian Pierik Senior HR Analyst Marisa Bermudez Police Chief Paul Tomasi Police Commander Todd Trayer
Employee Organization: Police Officers Association (POA)

Public comment - none

ADJOURNMENT

Council moved to Closed Session at 8:35 p.m.

APPROVED:



Dale Byrne, Mayor

ATTEST:



Nova Romero, MMC, City Clerk

