

**CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**



**April 8, 2025
5:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
1315 Valley Drive
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254**

Members Present: Mayor Dean Francois, Mayor Pro Tem Rob Saemann, Councilmember Mike Detoy, Councilmember Ray Jackson, Councilmember Michael D. Keegan

Staff Present: City Manager Suja Lowenthal, City Attorney Patrick Donegan, Deputy City Manager Angela Crespi, Administrative Services Director Brandon Walker, City Clerk Myra Maravilla, Community Resources Director Lisa Nichols, Public Works Director Joe SanClemente, Deputy City Clerk Reanna Guzman, Planning Manager Alexis Oropeza

1. CLOSED SESSION—CALL TO ORDER 5:00 PM

Mayor Francois called the Closed Session meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

City Clerk Myra Maravilla announced a quorum.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

Mayor Francois opened public comment. The following public comment was provided.

Mayor Pro Tem Saemann joined the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

Virtual Public Comment:

- Kent Allen
- Matt McCool

4. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

The City Council recessed to Closed Session at 5:16 p.m.

4.a MINUTES: Approval of minutes of Closed Session held on March 25, 2025

4.b PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

5. OPEN SESSION—CALL TO ORDER 6:00 PM

Mayor Francois called the Open Session to order at 6:23 p.m.

6. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trent Larson.

7. ROLL CALL

City Clerk Maravilla announced a quorum.

8. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

City Attorney Donegan provided the Closed Session report. No reportable action was taken.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS—UPCOMING CITY EVENTS

Mayor Francois announced Earth Day community events: The Spring Paper Shredding and Compost Giveaway event took place at the Community Center; on Saturday, April 19th the annual Hermosa Community Garage Sale will take place; on Sunday, April 20th the Sea Sprite Hotel will host the annual beach clean-up from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and the State of the City Address will take place on Thursday, April 10th starting at 5:30 p.m.

10. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by: Councilmember Detoy

Seconded by: Mayor Pro Tem Saemann

To approve the order of the agenda.

Ayes (5): Mayor Francois, Mayor Pro Tem Saemann, Councilmember Detoy, Councilmember Jackson, and Councilmember Keegan

Motion Carried

11. PROCLAMATIONS / PRESENTATIONS

12. CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Suja Lowenthal provided the City Manager Report.

12.a PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR UPDATE

No Public Works Update was provided.

12.b POLICE CHIEF UPDATE

Captain Landon Phillips provided the Police Chief Update.

Mayor Francois asked various questions regarding the 2028 Olympic events.

City Manager Lowenthal provided information about the Los Angeles Organizing Committee for the 2028 Olympics.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Francois opened Public Comment. The following public comment was provided.

In Person Public Comment:

- Sara Harper
- Trent Larson
- Beth Rohrer
- Jim Rosenberg

14. CITY COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

14.a UPDATES FROM CITY COUNCIL AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEES AND STANDING COMMITTEE DELEGATES/ALTERNATES

Councilmember Jackson provided comments about an advisory committee that was mentioned by Mayor Francois.

Mayor Francois provided information about his role in the discussion about an advisory group and requested information from the City Attorney about a potential Brown Act violation.

City Attorney Donegan provided information about the Brown Act.

Mayor Pro Tem Saemann provided comments.

Councilmember Deto provided comments.

15. CONSENT CALENDAR

Moved by: Councilmember Keegan

Seconded by: Councilmember Deto

To approve the Consent Calendar.

Ayes (5): Mayor Francois, Mayor Pro Tem Saemann, Councilmember Deto, Councilmember Jackson, and Councilmember Keegan

Motion Carried

15.a WAIVE READING IN FULL OF ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS ON THE AGENDA

Moved by: Councilmember Keegan
Seconded by: Councilmember Detoy

To approve the Consent Calendar.

Ayes (5): Mayor Francois, Mayor Pro Tem Saemann, Councilmember Detoy, Councilmember Jackson, and Councilmember Keegan

Motion Carried

15.b CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - 25-CCO-021

Moved by: Councilmember Keegan
Seconded by: Councilmember Detoy

To approve the minutes for the March 25, 2025 Regular Meeting.

Motion Carried

15.c VACANCY ON THE BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS—AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT AND SCHEDULE APPLICANT INTERIVEWS - 25-CCO-018

Moved by: Councilmember Keegan
Seconded by: Councilmember Detoy

To direct staff to advertise and solicit applications for one vacancy on the Building Board of Appeals for an undefined term, to serve at the pleasure of the City Council; and schedule applicant interviews to be held prior to the regular City Council meeting on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, with the option to make an appointment at the same meeting.

Motion Carried

15.d RENEWAL OF GENERAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY - 25-CMO-028

Moved by: Councilmember Keegan
Seconded by: Councilmember Detoy

To adopt Resolution No. RES-25-7479 authorizing the Mayor to execute a five-year General Services Agreement between the City of Hermosa Beach and Los Angeles County.

Motion Carried

15.e CHECK REGISTERS - 25-AS-031

Moved by: Councilmember Keegan
Seconded by: Councilmember Detoy

To ratify the check registers for the period March 19, 2025 through March 26, 2025. The Administrative Services Director certifies the accuracy of the demands.

Motion Carried

15.f FISCAL YEAR 2023–2024 ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT (INCLUDING REPORT FROM INDEPENDENT AUDITOR) - 25-AS-033

Moved by: Councilmember Keegan
Seconded by: Councilmember Detoy

To receive and file the FY 2023–24 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), which includes the report from Gruber and Lopez, Inc., the City's independent auditors.

Motion Carried

15.g SIDE LETTER TO THE MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES' MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING - 25-AS-032

Moved by: Councilmember Keegan
Seconded by: Councilmember Detoy

To approve Resolution No. RES-25-7480 and Side Letter to the Management Employees' Memorandum of Understanding.

Motion Carried

15.h ACTION MINUTES OF THE PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING OF MARCH 4, 2025 - 25-CR-033

Moved by: Councilmember Keegan
Seconded by: Councilmember Detoy

To receive and file the action minutes of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Resources Advisory Commission meeting of March 4, 2025.

Motion Carried

15.i APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE BEACH CITIES WATERSHED

MANAGEMENT GROUP FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COORDINATED INTEGRATED MONITORING PROGRAM (CIMP) - 25-CMO-026

Moved by: Councilmember Keegan
Seconded by: Councilmember Detoy

To approve an amendment to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding the Administration and Cost Sharing for Coordination and Implementation of the Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP) for the Beach Cities Watershed Management Group (WMG) to extend the term of the agreement through December 31, 2026, with the option to further extend the term in increments of one calendar year at a time, up to two additional years; and authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to the proposed amendment, subject to approval by the City Attorney.

Motion Carried

15.j ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING FINAL MAP NO. 83937 FOR AN ADDITION TO AN EXISTING CONDOMINIUM LOCATED AT 705 2ND STREET - 25-CDD-055

Moved by: Councilmember Keegan
Seconded by: Councilmember Detoy

To determine that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act; adopt Resolution No. RES-25-7481 approving Final Parcel Map No. 83937, which is consistent with the approved Vesting Tentative Parcel Map; and authorize the City Clerk to endorse the certificate for said map.

Motion Carried

16. PUBLIC HEARINGS—TO COMMENCE AT 6:30 P.M

16.a REQUEST FOR A ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT (TA 25-01), PERTAINING TO THE REGULATION OF TEMPORARY USES AND EVENTS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY, AMENDING HERMOSA BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE (HBMC): 1) CHAPTER 17.04 - 25-CDD-054

Planning Manager Alexis Oropeza provided a presentation.

Mayor Francois asked about a handicap parking spot relocation and a fee if the permit is modified.

Mayor Pro Tem Saemann asked various questions regarding moving lights.

Councilmember Detoy asked various questions.

Mayor Francois asked various questions.

Councilmember Deto asked various questions.

Mayor Francois asked various questions.

Councilmember Keegan asked various questions.

Councilmember Jackson asked various questions.

City Manager Lowenthal provided information.

Mayor Pro Tem Saemann asked various questions.

In Person Public Comment:

- Carolyn Petty
- Kathy Krown
- Michelle Crispin
- John Burry
- Barbara Ellman

Virtual Public Comment

- Matt McCool
- Laura Pena
- Kent Allen

Mayor Pro Tem Saemann provided comments.

Mayor Francois provided comments.

Councilmember Jackson provided comments.

Councilmember Keegan provided comments.

Councilmember Deto provided comments.

Mayor Francois asked various questions.

Community Resources Director Lisa Nichols provided information.

The City Council continued to deliberate on this item.

Moved by: Mayor Pro Tem Saemann

Seconded by: Councilmember Keegan

To conduct a public hearing to consider amendments to Hermosa Beach Municipal Code pertaining to temporary use and temporary events; determine whether the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act; and introduce by title only and waive first reading of an

Ordinance of the City of Hermosa Beach, California, approving Zoning Text Amendment (25-01), with the following changes: allowing moving lights with the exception of lasers or strobe lights, change temporary minor events to 24 events over 72 days and limited events to 6 per month over 72 days, and remove the M-1 zone from section C.2.b. and section C.4.b. should be once annually for 45 days.

Substitute Motion 1

Moved by: Councilmember Detoy

Seconded by: Mayor Francois

As amended to allow temporary minor special events in the M-1 zone with a maximum of 50% of the event taking place indoors.

Ayes (3): Mayor Francois, Councilmember Detoy, and Councilmember Jackson

Noes (2): Mayor Pro Tem Saemann, and Councilmember Keegan

Motion Carried

17. MUNICIPAL MATTERS

17.a REVIEW OF DAY AT THE BEACH EVENTS' REQUEST FOR A NEW AGREEMENT FOR THE HERMOSA BEACH OPEN IN 2025 THROUGH 2027 - 25-CR-034

Community Resources Director Lisa Nichols provided a presentation.

Mayor Francois asked various questions.

Councilmember Detoy asked various questions.

Councilmember Jackson asked various questions.

Mark Paaluhi provided comments.

Mayor Francois asked various questions.

Councilmember Detoy asked various questions.

Councilmember Jackson asked various questions.

No public comment was provided.

Councilmember Detoy asked about waiving indirect costs.

City Attorney Donegan provided information.

The City Council continued to deliberate on this item.

Moved by: Councilmember Detoy

Seconded by: Councilmember Jackson

To receive and file the informational report of the comparing the terms of the approved Long-term Agreement (LTA) with Day at the Beach Events (DATBE) for the Hermosa Beach Open (HBO) from 2025 through 2027 with those of an alternative agreement structure requested by DATBE, in which the City would serve as the event owner and waive indirect costs.

Ayes (5): Mayor Francois, Mayor Pro Tem Saemann, Councilmember Detoy, Councilmember Jackson, and Councilmember Keegan

Motion Carried

17.b RENAMING THE GREENBELT PEDESTRIAN TRAIL WITH A BENCH DEDICATED TO THE ACCESS HERMOSA WORKING GROUP AND IN MEMORIAM OF GEOFF HIRSCH AND CASEY ROHRER, AND RENAMING THE SOUTH PARK ACCESSIBLE PLAYGROUND IN HONOR OF CASEY ROHRER - 25-CR-035

Community Resources Director Lisa Nichols provided a presentation.

Mayor Francois asked various questions.

Councilmember Keegan asked various questions.

Councilmember Jackson asked various questions.

In Person Public Comment:

- Barbara Ellman

Virtual Public Comment:

- Matt McCool

Mayor Pro Tem Saemann asked various questions.

The City Council continued to deliberate on this item.

Moved by: Mayor Pro Tem Saemann

Seconded by: Councilmember Detoy

To receive and file the Greenbelt Pedestrian Trail and South Park Accessible Playground Renaming Joint Subcommittee (Subcommittee) Report; adopt Resolution No. RES-25-7482 renaming the Greenbelt Pedestrian Trail from Pier Avenue to 8th Street to the Greenbelt Accessible Trail; approve the installation of a bench and plaque on the Greenbelt Pedestrian Trail dedicated to the Access Hermosa Working Group and in memoriam of Geoff Hirsch and Casey Rohrer; and per the Parks, Recreation, and Community Resources Advisory Commission (Commission) recommendation:

- a. Adopt Resolution No. RES-25-7483 renaming the South Park accessible playground in honor of Casey Rohrer; and

- b. Approve the installation of a commemorative plaque on an existing bench near the South Park accessible playground.

Ayes (4): Mayor Francois, Mayor Pro Tem Saemann, Councilmember Detoy, and Councilmember Jackson

Noes (1): Councilmember Keegan

Motion Carried

17.c APPROVAL OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ALL CITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., TO PROVIDE CROSSING GUARD SERVICES - 25-PD-005

Captain Phillips provided a presentation.

Councilmember Keegan asked various questions.

Councilmember Jackson asked various questions.

Councilmember Keegan provided comments.

Virtual Public Comment:

- Matt McCool

The City Council deliberated on this item.

Moved by: Councilmember Detoy

Seconded by: Councilmember Keegan

To approve a Professional Services Agreement with All City Management Services, Inc., to provide crossing guard services at an annual not-to-exceed amount of \$315,315 for year one and a three-year term, beginning July 1, 2025 and ending July 1, 2028; authorize the City Manager to extend up to two one-year terms; and authorize the City Manager to execute and the City Clerk to attest to the proposed agreement, subject to approval by the City Attorney.

Ayes (5): Mayor Francois, Mayor Pro Tem Saemann, Councilmember Detoy, Councilmember Jackson, and Councilmember Keegan

Motion Carried

17.d CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION FOR SENATE BILL 79 (WIENER) - 25-CMO-029

Deputy City Manager Angela Crespi provided a presentation.

Mayor Francois asked various questions.

Virtual Public Comment:

- Matt McCool
- Laura Pena

Mayor Francois asked various questions.

Mayor Pro Tem Saemann provided comments.

Councilmember Detoy provided comments.

Moved by: Councilmember Jackson

Seconded by: Councilmember Keegan

To consider adopting by title Resolution No. RES-25-7484 expressing opposition to Senate Bill 79; and authorize the Mayor to send a letter expressing the City's position.

Ayes (4): Mayor Francois, Mayor Pro Tem Saemann, Councilmember Jackson, and Councilmember Keegan

Noes (1): Councilmember Detoy

Motion Carried

18. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Councilmember Jackson requested support for the feasibility of demolishing the storage unit for the use of a surface parking lot next to City Hall and make it available at the April 22, 2025, CIP Study Session. Mayor Pro Tem Saemann supported the item.

Mayor Francois requested support to revise the uses for gallery and creative arts studios, and add openings so that permits are not required for these openings. No support was provided.

Councilmember Keegan closed the meeting in memory of Parker Harriet.

Mayor Francois provided a reminder of the CIP Study Session.

18.a TENTATIVE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - 25-CMO-030

19. PUBLIC COMMENT

20. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 p.m.