



## OROVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Council Chambers  
1735 Montgomery Street  
Oroville, CA. 95965

**SEPTEMBER 05, 2023  
MINUTES**

This agenda was posted on September 1, 2023. This meeting was recorded and may be viewed at [cityoforoville.org](http://cityoforoville.org) or on YouTube.

### **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Council Members: Tracy Johnstone, Krysi Riggs, Scott Thomson, Janet Goodson, Shawn Webber, Vice Mayor Eric Smith, Mayor David Pittman

**STAFF:** City Administrator, Brian Ring; Assistant City Administrator, Ruth Duncan; Karolyn Fairbanks, City Treasurer, Assistant City Clerk, Kayla Reaster; Business Assistance and Housing Director, Amy Bergstrand; Community Development Director, Pat Piatt; Public Works Director, Fred Mayo; Code Enforcement Director, Ron Belser; City Attorney, Scott Huber; Chief of Police, Bill LaGrone

### **CLOSED SESSION**

The Council held a Closed Session on the following:

1. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2), the Council will meet with the City Administrator and City Attorney regarding potential exposure to litigation – One Case.

### **OPEN SESSION**

1. Announcement from Closed Session – Mayor Pittman announced that direction was given. There were no announcements out of Closed Session.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Vice Mayor Smith
3. Adoption of Agenda – Motioned by Council Member Goodson, seconded by Vice Mayor Smith. Motion passed Unanimously.

**AYES:** Johnstone, Riggs, Thomson, Goodson, Webber, Smith, Mayor Pittman  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

### **PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Mayor Pittman read a proclamation honoring Ger Vang for his dedication to the Oroville Community and Hmong Community. Yeng Vang attended and received the proclamation in person on behalf of the family.

2. Mayor Pittman read a proclamation honoring Alberta Tracy "The Lady of Butte County" for all her contributions to the community throughout her lifetime. Danny Ballard, Ms. Tracy's predecessor, attended and received the proclamation in person on behalf of Ms. Tracy.

## **PUBLIC COMMUNICATION - HEARING OF NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

The following individuals spoke on non-agenda items:

- Bill Speer

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Consent calendar items 1 - 5 are adopted in one action by the Council. Items that are removed will be discussed and voted on immediately after adoption of consent calendar items.

### **1. Approval of the August 15, 2023 Oroville City Council Meeting Minutes**

The Council approved the Minutes of August 15, 2023 by the following 6 -1 vote:

AYES: Johnstone, Riggs, Thomson, Goodson, Smith, Mayor Pittman  
NOES: Webber  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

### **2. Change Order Portland Loo Project**

The Council approved a Change Order #5 for the additional cost and materials of the 2023 Portland Loo Project by the following 6-1 vote:

AYES: Johnstone, Riggs, Thomson, Goodson, Smith, Mayor Pittman  
NOES: Webber  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

### **3. Contract with Hignell Inc. DBA Experts in Your Home for the Oroville Convention Center, Phase I Project**

The Council approved Reso No. 9181 - a resolution of the Oroville City Council authorizing and directing the Mayor to sign and accept the proposal with Hignell, Inc. dba Experts in Your Home, and authorized Hignell, Inc. dba Experts in Your Home to complete the proposed Oroville Convention Center Phase I Project in an amount of \$1,204,596 and alternate bids in the amount of \$87,030 plus a 10% contingency in the amount of \$129,162.60 (total \$1,420,788.60) should any deficiencies be discovered during the project and; 2) authorized the City Administrator to modify or amend the Hignell, Inc. dba Experts in Your Home contract to include any additional amenities, alternatives or needs that the project may have, contingent upon funding availability by the following 6-1 vote:

AYES: Johnstone, Riggs, Thomson, Goodson, Smith, Mayor Pittman  
NOES: Webber  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

**4. Amendment to Funding Allocation for the Stanford Avenue School Parking Project**

The Council approved the amendment to the funding allocation for the construction of the Stanford Avenue School parking lot by the following 6-1 vote:

AYES: Johnstone, Riggs, Thomson, Goodson, Smith, Mayor Pittman  
NOES: Webber  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

**5. Resolution to Oppose Initiative 21-0042A1 the Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act**

The Council adopted of Resolution 9179, opposing a 2024 ballot initiative that would restrict California cities' ability to collect taxes and fees on services provided by the following 6-1 vote:

AYES: Johnstone, Riggs, Thomson, Goodson, Smith, Mayor Pittman  
NOES: Webber  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

## REGULAR BUSINESS

**6. Approval of an Application for the Federal Fund Account/Last Mile Grant Program by the Golden State Connect Authority and Letter in Support of the Project**

Pat Piatt, Community Development Director and Pat Blacklock, President of Rural County Representatives of California, presented this item to the Council.

The City Council supported GSCA to pursue a grant from the CPUC FFA/Last Mile program to obtain funding to provide fiber optic broadband connectivity throughout the City Of Oroville and issue a letter in support of the project by the following unanimous vote:

Motioned: Council Member Johnstone; Seconded: Council Member Riggs

AYES: Johnstone, Riggs, Thomson, Goodson, Webber, Smith, Mayor Pittman  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

**7. North Star Place Branding Contract and New Oroville Branding**

Brian Ring, City Administrator presented this item to the Council.

The Council confirmed the following: 1) Prior approval of the Oroville brand as presented by North Star Place Branding; 2) Approval of the first-year Marketing Plan timeline, and \$100,000 budget; and 3) Directed staff to continue using the internal team with the addition of Council Member Webber to return in 60 days with a new product/new ideas for consideration.

The following member(s) of the public submitted public comment on this item: Bill Speer; Julie Miller; Sara Nolind on behalf of Brian Wong; Hardy Lahn; Audrey Holt; Deborah Wigely; and Renee Gramps.

**8. Response to the 2022-2023 Final Butte County Grand Jury Report**

Dave Richie, City Attorney presented this item to the Council.

The City Council approved the City of Oroville's response to the 2022-2023 Final Butte County Grand Jury Report by the following unanimous vote:

Motioned: Council Member Goodson; Seconded: Council Member Smith

AYES: Johnstone, Riggs, Thomson, Goodson, Webber, Smith, Mayor Pittman  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

**9. Capital Asset Requests**

Ruth Duncan, Assistant City Administrator and Finance Director presented this item to the Council.

The Council approved the list of capital asset purchases for fiscal year 2023-24 by the following unanimous vote:

Motioned: Council Member Goodson; Seconded: Mayor Pittman

AYES: Johnstone, Riggs, Thomson, Goodson, Webber, Smith, Mayor Pittman  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

**10. Contract Amendment for City Administrator**

Dave Ritchie, City Attorney presented this item to the Council.

The Council approved the contract amendment by the following unanimous vote:

Motioned: Council Member Thomson; Seconded Council Member Riggs

AYES: Johnstone, Riggs, Thomson, Goodson, Webber, Smith, Mayor Pittman  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATION - HEARING OF NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

- Renee Gramps

## REPORTS/ DISCUSSIONS / CORRESPONDENCE

1. City Council Announcements and Reports
  - A. Smith – Spoke on a correction he wanted to enter into the record in which he mentioned Natalie Sheard does have a building background. He also spoke on AB 553.
  - B. Mayor Pittman – Spoke on his attendance at the BCAG and SCOR meetings.
  - C. Goodson – Spoke on the letter from Mayor Pittman that was sent to Maui and subsequently read to the firefighters during one of their evening briefs.
  
2. Future Agenda Items
  - A. Council Member Smith – Requested that bring back an item regarding the fencing that has gone up on Montgomery Road as it poses a hazard to traffic attempting to turn onto Montgomery. This request was seconded by Council Member Johnstone.
  - B. Council Member Goodson – Requested that staff provide an update on the Gateway Project. City Administrator Ring stated they would have an update at the next meeting.
  - C. Council Member Webber – Requested a plaque be placed on the Ehmann House in remembrance of Alberta Tracy “The Lady of Butte County”. Webber also asked that staff look into the possibility of the creation of an ordinance that would allow for local preference when issuing contracts. The City Attorney provided Webber with an update on what that would consist of.
  
3. Administration Reports –

Brian Ring, City Administrator, spoke on productive meetings had with BCAG regarding the Hwy 162 update. A briefing on this item will be brought to the September 19, 2023, council meeting. Mr. Ring also supplied an update on the progress of the City Charter project.

Ron Belser, Code Enforcement Director, spoke on several reports regarding caseloads and progress that has been made on them. Mr. Belser spoke on progress with Lexipol and the weekly meetings being held regarding this matter. He also spoke on the Salmon Festival.

Amy Bergstrand, Housing and Business Assistance Director, spoke on Mission Esperanza and how it did not receive ERF funding this round. There will be another opportunity to apply for these funds at the end of the year.

Ruth Duncan, Assistant City Administrator and Finance Director spoke on pension update for unfunded liability and gave the Council notice that there will be a 10 minute presentation to come on this topic in October. Ms. Duncan is currently working on an RFP for new carpet to be installed at City Hall. Lastly, Ms. Duncan reported on her upcoming vacation to notify staff that she will be out of office.
  
4. Correspondence
  - i. Letter from Lorraine Christensen received August 18, 2023.
  - ii. Letter from Bob Gustafson received August 23, 2023.

## ADJOURN THE MEETING

Mayor Pittman adjourned the meeting at 7:28PM.

APPROVED:



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Mayor, David Pittman

ATTESTED:



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Assistant City Clerk, Kayla Reaster