The Concord City Council met in a regular meeting in the Council Chamber located at 1950 Parkside Drive at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 7, 2018, with Mayor Birsan presiding. The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilmember McGallian. Minutes follow in abbreviated form per Resolution 3361 and Council Minutes of September 26, 1966.

ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Laura Hoffmeister, Ron Leone, Tim McGallian, Carlyn Obringer, Edi Birsan

STAFF PRESENT: Valerie Barone, City Manager; Susanne Brown, City Attorney; Kathleen Trepa, Assistant City Manager; Joelle Fockler, City Clerk; Karan Reid, Director of Finance; Andrea Ouse, Director of Community and Economic Development; Abhishek Parikh, Transportation Manager; Jennifer Ortega, Community Relations Manager

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO Addressed THE COUNCIL: Rhea Laughlin, First 5 Contra Costa; Jima Monson, Central County Regional Group; Kristi Laughlin, East Bay Alliance for Sustainable Economy; Debra Bernstein, Monument Impact; Natalie, Jaime Cader, Concord; Marianna Moore, Concord; Chris Ricci, Chris Ricci Presents, Inc.; George Fulmore, Concord; Ajit Kaushal, Concord; Matt Light, Elenie Daphnis, Concord; Kenji Yamada, Concord; Greg Grassi, Concord; Ray Barbour, Concord

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Rhea Laughlin, First 5 Contra Costa and Raise the Roof Coalition, shared information regarding their recently released housing report and requested time on a future agenda to present the report.

Jima Monson, Central County Regional Group, statement read into the record regarding rent increases.

Kristi Laughlin, East Bay Alliance for Sustainable Economy, spoke about the housing crisis and the recently released housing report.

Debra Bernstein, Monument Impact, spoke about rent increases and unjust evictions.

Natalie, spoke about climate change and creating a sense of fair play.

Jaime Cader, Concord, spoke about rent increases.

Marianna Moore, Concord, spoke about the recently released housing report and read a letter from John Muir Health that is included with the report.
Chris Ricci, Chris Ricci Presents, Inc. announced the Taco Fest taking place August 25th at Todos Santos Plaza.

George Fulmore, Concord, spoke about rent increases, the condition of Monument Blvd., and Code Enforcement visits to 1500 Monument Blvd regarding Lottery signs.

Ajit Kaushal, Concord, spoke about the new Shiva Murugan Temple being built in Concord and announced the Second Annual Concord Murugan Festival on September 1 and 2, 2018.

Matt Light, invited the Council and public to the cannabis education day on September 8, 2018, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Todos Santos Plaza.

Elenie Daphnis, Concord, spoke about rent increases and her landlord not responding to maintenance issues.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Joelle Fockler announced the upcoming Fall 2018 Community Institute starting September 22, 2018. Applications are due by Friday, August 24, 2018.

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 8, 2018

The May 22, 2018, meeting minutes were removed from consideration by staff to return at a later date.

Motion was made by Hoffmeister and seconded by Obringer to approve the minutes from the meeting of May 8, 2018. Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

DESIGNATION OF VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE FOR LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING – September 14, 2018

Motion was made by Hoffmeister and seconded by Obringer to designate Mayor Birsan as voting delegate and Councilmember McGallian as alternate for the League of California Cities Annual Business Meeting scheduled for Friday, September 14, at 12:30 p.m. at the Long Beach Convention Center. Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT – Advanced Mobility Group (AMG)

This item was pulled from the Consent Calendar by Concord resident George Fulmore, who asked for an explanation about the need for this agreement.

Mayor Birsan opened a public comment period, upon receiving no public comment Mayor Birsan closed the public comment period.

Motion was made by Leone and seconded by McGallian to approve a $400,000 and a one-year extension amendment to the Agreement for Professional Services with Advanced Mobility Group (AMG) associated with Engineering Staff Augmentation Services for the Transportation Division; and authorize the City Manager to execute the amendment in a form acceptable to the City Attorney. Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Council.
ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 18-58 – Proposed Ballot Measure to Extend an Existing Voter-Approved Local Transactions and Use (Sales) Tax

Assistant City Manager Kathleen Trepa introduced the item by providing a background on the discussions regarding the expected structural deficit and fiscal stability discussions with Management Partners, reviewing the 20-Year Financial Model, and relaying the General Fund shortfall factors and shortfall causes. Ms. Trepa introduced Brian Godbe, Godbe Research, who presented an overview of the City of Concord 2018 Survey conducted in June 2018.

Ms. Trepa then presented a history of Measure Q, the use of Measure Q revenue, spoke to the City’s deteriorating roads, roadway maintenance, and how an extension will assist with road condition improvements. Ms. Trepa reported that the proposed Measure Q extension would generate approximately $26 million; invest in roadways, parks, and facilities and support current operations; continue to find ways to generate additional revenue and contain costs. She stated that the measure will be effective April 1, 2019, if approved by voters.

Council asked clarifying questions about roads and how the extension of the Measure would improve the roads, what the tax rate would be, and the difference between putting the Measure on the 2018 and 2020 ballot.

Mayor Birsan opened a public comment period.

Kenji Yamada, Concord, spoke in support of extending the ballot measure.

George Fulmore, Concord, spoke about quality of life and outreach to renters and homeless.

Greg Grassi, Measure Q Committee, spoke in support of extending the ballot measure.

Ray Barbour, Concord, spoke in support of extending the ballot measure.

Mayor Birsan closed the public comment period.

Vice Mayor Obringer and Councilmember Leone felt more outreach to the community is needed to help residents understand the reason for the tax increase before it is placed on the ballot.

Following comments by the Council, a motion was made by McGallian and seconded by Hoffmeister to adopt Resolution No. 18-58 entitled, “A Resolution Calling for and Giving Notice of a November 6, 2018, Election on a Proposed Ballot Measure to Extend an Existing Voter Approved Local General Transactions and Use (Sales) Tax at a One Cent (1%) Rate until Repealed by the Voters to Fund General Municipal Services such as Street Repair and Public Safety; and Establishing the Policies and Procedures for Such an Election and Requesting that the County of Contra Costa Conduct Such an Election.” Motion failed by the following vote of the Council:

AYES: Hoffmeister, McGallian, Birsan
NOES: Leone, Obringer
ABSENT: None

CORRESPONDENCE

a. Correspondence Received – Agenda Item No. 5.a
b. The Housing Crisis Hits Home in Concord report
c. Second Annual Concord Murugan Festival invitation
d. Cannabis Education Day flyer
e. PowerPoint Presentation – Agenda item No. 5.a – Proposed Measure Q Ballot Measure
f. PowerPoint Presentation – Agenda item No. 5.a – City of Concord: 2018 Survey Results Highlights
COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Birsan appointed Councilmember Leone as Chair and himself as Member of an ad-hoc committee to work with staff to review the architecture of all construction projects that need planning permits in the inner and outer downtown core for up to the next six months.

Councilmembers shared information on events and activities in which they had participated since the last meeting and commented on items of interest.

ADJOURNMENT

By order of the Mayor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

EDi E. BIRSAN
MAYOR

JOELLE FOCKLER, MMC
CITY CLERk