



SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MILPITAS CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

MONDAY, JULY 11, 2022

MILPITAS, CA

6:30 PM

For assistance in the following languages, you may call:

Đối với Việt Nam, gọi 408-586-2400

Para sa Tagalog, tumawag sa 408-586-3051

Para español, llame 408-586-3072

CITY OF MILPITAS - NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Meeting of the Milpitas City Council will be held at 6:30 p.m. on July 11, 2022, via teleconference/Zoom webinar.

You may watch the Council meeting without providing public comment by accessing it via links here.

Meeting shall be livestreamed - Go to:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CityofMilpitas/>

YouTube: <https://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/youtube>

Web Streaming: <https://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/webstreaming>

PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Oral public comments may be provided live during the City Council meeting by first registering for the zoom meeting in advance by providing email address (not disclosed) and a name. To minimize technical difficulties, please make sure that you have the latest version of Zoom Meetings. Here is the link to register for this meeting only:

https://ci-milpitas-ca-gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ux6REQhyQv-e0Yi9b09g7A

A link will be sent to you to join the City Council meeting in order to give your comments. All registered meeting attendees who wish to speak must click on the "raise hand" icon when the Mayor calls for public comments. If participating by calling in on your phone, dial *9 to use the "raise hand" feature, and when you are called upon, hit *6 to unmute your phone. Your phone number will be displayed in the live meeting. The Mayor or staff will call the speakers to begin.

All comments provided shall be limited to three minutes or less as determined by the Mayor. All members of the public will be limited to one comment per agenda item, and one comment for non-agenda items. online written comment form previously used is no longer available for public comment.

MILPITAS CITY COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

- Be respectful and courteous (words, tone, and body language).
- Model civility.
- Avoid surprises.
- Praise publicly and criticize privately.
- Focus on the issue, not the person.
- Refrain from using electronic devices while on the Council dais.
- Disclose conflicts of interest and affiliations related to agenda items.
- Separate governing from campaigning.
- The Council speaks with one voice after making policy on issues.
- Respect the line between policy and administration.
- Council will hold one another accountable to comply with this Code of Conduct.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER by Mayor and ROLL CALL by City Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC FORUM

Those interested are invited to address the City Council on the agenda item listed below only, by using the “raise hand” in the zoom webinar online (see instructions on page 1). Speakers may state their name and city of residence for the record, and limit spoken remarks to three minutes, or less, at the discretion of the Mayor.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

READING OF THE CITY COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

AGENDA ITEMS

- 1.** Reconfirm Findings and Determinations Under Resolution No. 9165 and Assembly Bill 361 for the Continuation of Virtual Meetings of the City Council and Legislative Bodies (Staff Contact: Michael Mutalipassi, City Attorney, 408-586-3040)

Recommendation: Move to reconfirm findings and determinations under Resolution No. 9165 and Assembly Bill 361 for the continuation of virtual meetings of the City Council and Legislative Bodies.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

(a) PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957

Position: City Manager

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Report on action taken in Closed Session, if required per Government Code Section 54957.1, including the vote or abstention of each member present.

ADJOURNMENT

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE OPEN GOVERNMENT ORDINANCE

Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions and other City agencies exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and City operations are open to the people's review. For more information on your rights under the Open Government Ordinance or to report a violation, contact the City Attorney's office at Milpitas City Hall, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas, CA 95035
e-mail: mmutalipassi@milpitas.gov / Phone: 408-586-3040

The Open Government Ordinance is codified in the Milpitas Municipal Code as Title I Chapter 310 and is available online at the City's website www.milpitas.gov by selecting the Milpitas Municipal Code link.

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the City Council after initial distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the City Clerk's office at Milpitas City Hall, 3rd floor 455 E. Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas and on City website. City Council agendas and related materials can be viewed online: www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/government/council/agenda_minutes.asp (select meeting date)

APPLY TO SERVE ON A CITY COMMISSION

Commission application forms are available online at www.milpitas.gov or at Milpitas City Hall. Contact the City Clerk's Office at 408-586-3001 for more information.

If you need assistance, per the Americans with Disabilities Act, for any City of Milpitas public meeting, please call the City Clerk at 408-586-3001 or send an e-mail to CityClerk@milpitas.gov prior to the meeting. You may request a larger font agenda.



CITY OF MILPITAS AGENDA REPORT (AR)

Item Title:	Reconfirm Findings and Determinations Under Resolution No. 9165 and Assembly Bill 361 for the Continuation of Virtual Meetings of the City Council and Legislative Bodies (Staff Contact: Michael Mutalipassi, City Attorney, 408-586-3040)
Category:	Consent Calendar-Leadership and Support Services
Meeting Date:	7/11/2022
	<u>Recommendation:</u> Move to reconfirm findings and determinations under Resolution No. 9165 and Assembly Bill 361 for the continuation of virtual meetings of the City Council and Legislative Bodies.

Background:

On March 17, 2020, in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 suspending certain provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act in order to allow for local legislative bodies to conduct their meetings completely telephonically or by other electronic means.

The provisions in the Brown Act that were suspended by the Governor's Executive Order are contained at Government Code Section 54953(b)(3) and require that when teleconferencing is used, outside of a statewide emergency, that the following occur:

- An agenda is required to be posted at all locations, including any teleconference locations
- Each teleconference location must be identified on the actual agenda
- Each teleconference location shall be accessible to the public
- A quorum of the legislative body must be in the jurisdiction

With the Governor's Executive Order, the four above requirements were suspended, allowing Councilmembers to not have to post an agenda at their teleconference location, not have to identify their location on the meeting agenda, not have to ensure public accessibility at the teleconference location, and the legislative body did not need a quorum present in the jurisdiction. As the Council is well aware, this allowed all City Council meetings and other meetings of legislative bodies of the City to be conducted by Zoom with councilmembers, commission members, committee members, and staff all joining from remote virtual locations.

The suspension of certain provisions of the Brown Act was further extended by the Governor on June 11, 2021 by the issuance of Executive Order N-08-21 which continued to allow for complete virtual meetings until September 30, 2021.

With the expiration of the Governor's Executive Order and the uncertainty that surrounded the Governor's potential recall, the State Legislature also took the remote meeting issue into its own hands through the adoption of Assembly Bill 361, which is explained in more depth in the Analysis section below.

On May 17, 2022, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 9156, making findings that there is an existing State of Emergency and that state or local officials continue to recommend social distancing measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. In particular, the resolution included reference to Cal-OSHA regulation 3205, which

recommends physical distancing in the workplace. By motion and majority vote, the City Council may reconfirm the findings of Resolution No. 9156 and continue to hold virtual meetings pursuant to AB 361.

Analysis:

On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361, which allows legislative bodies to meet virtually provided there is a state of emergency declared by the Governor, and either (1) state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; or (2) the legislative body determines by majority vote that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees. The Governor by executive order signed on September 20, 2021, suspended the effective date of AB 361 to October 1, 2021. As a result, if the City desires to have virtual meetings on or after October 1, 2021, it must do so consistent with the requirements of AB 361.

AB 361 preserves many of the provisions of the earlier executive orders, including the suspension of the four teleconferencing requirements noted above, while also adding new requirements to the management of remote and teleconference public meetings in order to better achieve the levels of transparency that the Brown Act demands. Specifically, AB 361 imposes two new rules on remote public meetings:

1. Local governments and agencies hosting teleconference meetings in lieu of traditional in-person public meetings must permit direct public comment during the teleconference and must leave open the opportunity for public comment until the comment period for a given item is closed during the ordinary course of the meeting. The opportunity to make public comment must be of a sufficient duration so as to allow actual public participation.
2. Any action by the governing body during a public teleconference meeting must occur while the agency is actively and successfully broadcasting to members of the public through a call-in option or an internet-based service option. If a technical disruption within the agency's control prevents members of the public from either viewing the meeting of the public agency or prevents members of the public from offering public comment, the agency must cease all action on the meeting agenda until the disruption ends and the broadcast is restored. Action taken during an agency-caused disruption may be challenged as a violation of the Brown Act.

In order to continue to qualify for AB 361's waiver of in-person meeting requirements, the City Council must, within thirty (30) days of its first meeting under AB 361, and every thirty (30) days thereafter, make findings that (a) state or local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing, or that (b) an in-person meeting would constitute an imminent risk to the safety of attendees.

The above conditions continue to exist at this time, and staff recommends that the City Council by motion reconfirm the findings made in Resolution No. 9156 so that the City Council and all other subordinate legislative bodies may continue to meet virtually.

Lastly, it is important to note that AB 361 is optional. If the City Council wishes, it may meet in person. In addition, hybrid meetings are permissible.

Policy Alternatives:

Alternative 1: Do not by motion reconfirm the findings made in the resolution making findings and determinations under Assembly Bill 361 for the continuation of virtual meetings.

Pros: None

Cons: Many of the existing Commission, Committee, and Task Force meetings will not be able to meet virtually or through a hybrid format forcing all staff, commission or committee members, and the public to attend meetings in person.

Reason not recommended: The COVID-19 pandemic continues to be a global health issue and by forcing commission, committee, and task force meetings to be in person, public health may be put at risk.

Fiscal Impact:

The City Council's reconfirmation of the findings made in the resolution to continue with virtual meetings will maintain the status quo and no financial impact is anticipated by the reconfirmation of the findings.

California Environmental Quality Act:

The City Council's reconfirmation of the findings made in the resolution is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guideline 15378(b)(5) as it constitutes an organizational or administrative activity of the government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. Further, virtual meetings are likely to reduce certain impacts associated with vehicular travel related to in-person public meetings.

Recommendation:

Move to reconfirm findings and determinations under Resolution No. 9105 and Assembly Bill 361 for the continuation of virtual meetings of the City Council and Legislative Bodies.

Attachment

1. Resolution 9165

RESOLUTION 9165

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MILPITAS MAKING FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS UNDER AB 361 FOR THE CONTINUATION OF VIRTUAL MEETINGS

WHEREAS, the Ralph M. Brown Act (Gov. Code § 54950 *et seq.*) generally requires local agencies meeting via teleconference, including through other virtual or electronic means, to, among other things, provide public access at each location in which members of the legislative body are teleconferencing; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recently enacted Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361), which amended Government Code section 54953 to allow local agencies to meet fully virtually, without fully adhering to the rules otherwise applicable to teleconferencing, during a proclaimed state of emergency if state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, the Governor issued a proclamation declaring a state of emergency on March 4, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, pursuant to section 8625 of the California Emergency Services Act, and this proclaimed state of emergency currently remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Milpitas has considered the circumstances of the state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, state or local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19, in particular, Cal-OSHA regulation 3205 recommends physical distancing in the workplace generally and regulates a “close contact” defined as being within 6 feet of another under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue to impose social distancing while holding in-person meetings there is a high likelihood that members of the public would not all be able to be present in the meetings spaces; and

WHEREAS, the continuation of virtual meetings will allow for full participation by members of the public until social distancing recommendations are no longer necessary; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Milpitas desires that all City legislative bodies continue to hold virtual meetings pursuant to AB 361 and Government Code section 54953(e).

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Milpitas hereby finds, determines, and resolves as follows:

1. The City Council has considered the full record before it, which may include but is not limited to such things as the staff report, testimony by staff and the public, and other materials and evidence submitted or provided to it. Furthermore, the recitals set forth above are found to be true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.
2. The City Council and all other legislative bodies of the City of Milpitas who are required to hold public meetings, shall continue to meet virtually in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and without compliance with section 54953(b)(3) based upon the findings and determinations hereby made by the City Council.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of June 2022, by the following vote:

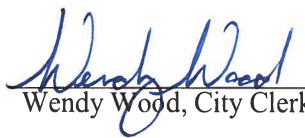
AYES: (5) Mayor Tran, Vice Mayor Montano, Councilmembers Chua, Dominguez, and Phan

NOES: (0) None

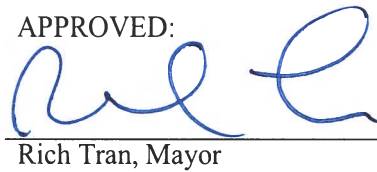
ABSENT: (0) None

ABSTAIN: (0) None

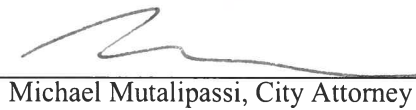
ATTEST:


Wendy Wood, City Clerk

APPROVED:


Rich Tran, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Michael Mutalipassi, City Attorney