

**MINUTES  
CALISTOGA CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**Tuesday, September 22, 2020 - 4:00 P.M.  
Virtual Meeting**

**A) CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL – SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**Mayor Canning**, called the special meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Donald Williams, Irais Lopez-Ortega, Gary Kraus; Vice Mayor Michael Dunsford and Mayor Chris Canning; Acting City Manager Zach Tusinger

Excused: City Manager Michael Kirn is Excused.

**B) ORAL COMMUNICATION ON CONSENT ITEMS OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None received

**C) CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Consideration of Displaying the Flag of Mexico from September 23, 2020 to October 15, 2020 on the City's Ceremonial Flagpole.

**Recommended Action:** By motion, approve the display.

**Councilmember Williams** noted he is fine with the motion; however, Council received a public comment citing the culture and contributions of Hispanics of multinational decent and posed the question as to why we are only flying one flag - the Flag of Mexico and asked 'how do we honor all countries while only displaying one flag?'

**Councilmember Lopez-Ortega** responded the Hispanic Heritage Proclamation read by Mayor Canning at the September 15, 2020 Council meeting and cited the Proclamation's acknowledgement of all Hispanic and Latin American histories and cultures. She further noted that the Flag of Mexico represents a majority of the Hispanic residents in Calistoga. Councilmember Lopez-Ortega acknowledged that all flags should be symbolically flown when feasible. This would require 33 poles representing 20 countries and independent territories. Councilmember Lopez-Ortega also mentioned the Flag of Mexico represents the beginning of independence from Spain in the 1800s, which fostered the independence of many other Latino nations. Historically, the Flag of Mexico has been displayed for many years in Calistoga and to be more inclusive should be a collaborative effort in the community.

**Councilmember Williams** stated he is fine with Proclamation and display of the flag and suggested that we do incorporate all cultures.

No additional public comment was received.

**It was MOVED by Councilmember Lopez-Ortega and SECONDED by Vice Mayor Dunsford to adopt and approve Consent Calendar Item No. 2.**

The motion carried by the following vote:

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>Councilmembers Williams, Lopez-Ortega, Kraus; Vice Mayor Dunsford and Mayor Canning</b>
<b>NOES:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>None</b>

**D) GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

3. Consideration of an approval of the installation of four temporary parklets on Lincoln Avenue (Hwy 29) and authorizing an expenditure of \$28,000 from the Pavement Maintenance CIP Budget  
**Recommended Action:** By motion and roll call vote approve the recommended action

**Public Works Director Derek Rayner** presented the staff report and PowerPoint presentation describing the project which includes the installation of four temporary parklets to address concerns related to Covid-19 and physical distancing on public sidewalks. Director Rayner indicated that the parklet design consisting of water filled barriers, was being driven by Caltrans conditions of approval for the encroachment permit and that other alternatives were rejected by Caltrans.

**Director Rayner** provided an overview of the benefits of the parklets including improved pedestrian flow, providing an opportunity for businesses to remain open, and increased physical distancing.

Councilmembers presented questions to staff which were responded to.

**Councilmember Kraus** sees community value of the parklets. Vice Mayor Dunsford commented on the uncertainty of the Covid-19 in the fall and suggested the City provide as many opportunities for businesses to be successful as possible and urged business owners to do their part to keep the parklets clean and hygienic. Councilmember Williams wants to remain flexible as to duration and asked about any contract requirement with Caltrans. Mayor Canning replied that the City plans to work in accordance with the prescribed requirements contained in the Caltrans encroachment permit. Councilmember Lopez-Ortega stated the importance of the parklets to both residents and tourists.

**Public Comment-**

**Mayor Canning** opened the public comment period.

**Deputy City Clerk** read into the record 3 emails regarding parklets:

1.) Bruce Kyse from the Calistoga Chamber of Commerce- the Chamber does not take a position but has spoken with 5 downtown restaurants who would appreciate the assistance the parklets would offer.

2.) Donna Higgins- Can I bring a beer from Calmart and consume it? How will space be divided?

Staff responded that alcohol consumption is not allowed in the parklets and business will work collaboratively to address space usage.

3.) Donna Higgins thanked Council for the opportunity to comment.

**Councilmember Williams** emphasized the public nature of the parklets.

**It was MOVED by Councilmember Kraus and SECONDED by Vice Mayor Dunsford approving the installation of the Parklets by the following vote:**

**AYES: Councilmembers Williams, Lopez-Ortega, Kraus; Vice Mayor Dunsford and Mayor Canning**

**NOES: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

**ABSENT: None**

**E) ADJOURNMENT**

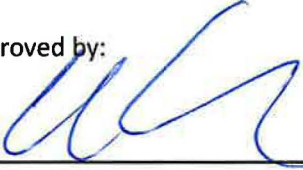
**Mayor Canning** adjourned the meeting at 4:55 P.M.

**Respectfully Submitted**

Prepared by:

  
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Hilary Gaede, Deputy City Clerk

Approved by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Canning, Mayor

Approved:

10/20/2020