

**CITY COUNCIL / LRA BOARD**

Mayor/Chair  
Richard D. O'Brien  
Council/Authority Members:  
District 1 -Luis Uribe  
District 2- Rachel Hernandez  
District 3- Vacant  
District 4 -Darlene Barber-Martinez



**CITY OF RIVERBANK**

**Regular City Council and  
Local Redevelopment Authority  
Board Meetings**

Council Chambers, 6707 Third St  
Suite B  
Riverbank, CA 95367



**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.**

(THE AGENDA PACKET IS ONLINE AT [HTTP://WWW.RIVERBANK.ORG/AGENDACENTER](http://www.riverbank.org/agendacenter))

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor / Chair O'Brien called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.
2. **FLAG SALUTE** – Mayor O'Brien led the pledge of allegiance.
3. **INVOCATION** – Reverend Randy Richardson provided the invocation.
4. **ROLL CALL** – City Clerk Hernandez conducted Roll Call.

**Members of the City Council / Local Redevelopment Authority Board present:**

*Council Member / Authority Member District 2 Rachel Hernandez*

*Council Member/ Authority Member District 3-VACANT*

*Council Member / Authority Member District 4 Darlene Barber-Martinez*

*Vice Mayor / Vice Chair District 1 Luis Uribe*

*Mayor / Chair Richard D. O'Brien*

**5. AGENDA CHANGES**

*No Agenda Changes.*

**6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

***Any Council/Authority Member or Staff who has a direct Conflict of Interest on any scheduled agenda item to be considered is to declare their conflict at this time.***

*None Declared.*

**7. PRESENTATIONS (Informational only)**

**Item 7.1**     **Proclamation- Veterans and Military Families Month-** It is recommended that the City Council read the Proclamation for Veterans and Military Families Month – November 2024 and present to George Retana, President of Veterans in Action.

*Mayor O'Brien read and presented the proclamation to George Retana and Veterans in Action in honor of Veterans and Military Family Month.*

## **8. PUBLIC COMMENTS (No action can be taken)**

*At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda, and within the subject matter jurisdiction of the City Council/LRA Board. Individual comments will be limited to a **maximum of 3 minutes (or as stated by the presiding Officer)** and time cannot be yielded to another person. Under State Law, matters presented during the public comment period cannot be discussed or acted upon.*

*Mayor O'Brien Opened Public Comment at 6:10 P.M*

*Olivia Arambula and Lorri Faile, with the Riverbank Chamber of Commerce, provided an update of upcoming events.*

*Kimberly Evans, Riverbank resident to express concern about Oakdale Road speed limit near Costco. Also, the Morrill Road and Roselle Ave. intersection, very difficult for buses to turn there.*

*Olivia Arambula, Riverbank resident to express concern in regards to Highway 108 and the homeless residents near the river.*

*Jami Aggers, County resident to express her concerns in regards to the Draft Housing Element that was presented at the Planning Commission meeting held on 10/15/24.*

*Fred Walton, County resident would like to thank the Veterans for their service. Also, express his thoughts and opposition of the River Walk Project.*

*Garry Pearson, Riverbank resident submitted a written comment (Attached).*

*There being no further public comments, Mayor O'Brien closed the Public Comment period 6:22 P.M.*

## **9. CONSENT CALENDAR**

*All items listed on the Consent Calendar are to be acted upon by a single action of the City Council/LRA Board unless requested by an individual Council/Authority Member or member of the public for special consideration. Otherwise, the recommendation of staff will be accepted and acted upon by motion of the City Council/LRA Board.*

**Item 9.1**      **Waive Readings.** All Readings of ordinances and resolutions, except by title, are waived.

**Item 9.2**      **Approval** of the City Council and Local Redevelopment Authority Board Minutes for the Special Meeting on October 2, 2024 and the Regular Meeting of October 8, 2024.

**Item 9.3**      **Resolution 2024-100** to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Stanislaus and Tuolumne Rivers Groundwater Basin Association (STRGBA) Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA).

**Item 9.4**      **Resolution 2024-101** of Reimbursement Declaring the City's Intent to Expect Reimbursement of Expenditures Paid Prior to the Issuance of Obligations or the Approval by the State Water Board of Project Funds.

**Item 9.5**      **Second Reading by Title Only and Introduction of Ordinance 2024-005**  
Approving the Rezone 01-2024 5.9 Acres to Planned Development Located  
at 6448 Claus Road (APN 062-039-048) for the Heritage II Subdivision.

*There being no public comments, Mayor O'Brien brought the item back to City Council.*

**ACTION:**      *By motion moved and seconded (Uribe / Barber-Martinez 4/0) to approve  
the **Consent Calendar** as presented.*

*Motion carried by unanimous City Council and LRA Board roll call vote:  
AYES: Uribe, Hernandez, Barber-Martinez, and Mayor O'Brien  
NAYS: None / ABSENT: None / ABSTAINED: None*

**10. PUBLIC HEARING-No Items Scheduled.**

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

**Item 11.1**      **Provide Direction to City Staff Regarding Projects for the Newly  
Dedicated Park Improvement Funds Through the American Rescue  
Plan Act in the Amount of \$389,362.22.** - It is recommended that the City  
Council provide guidance to the Parks and Recreation staff regarding the  
types of projects that should be funded using the recently allocated  
\$389,362.22 for park improvements under the American Rescue Plan Act.

*Director of Parks & Recreation Patton, gave a comprehensive staff report and power  
point presentation on the recommendation and guidance City Council would like City  
staff to go and use the newly dedicated Park Improvement funds through the American  
Rescue Plan Act.*

*City Council Discussed item with City Staff.*

*Eddie Carrillo & Phillip and America Navarro with Riverbank Youth Baseball and Softball  
Association (RYBSA). Would like to see some shade structures over the dugouts.  
Longer restroom accessibility.*

*There being no further public comment, Mayor O'Brien brought the item back to City  
Council.*

**ACTION:**      *City Council unanimously voted to proceed with the Castleberg Park  
improvements and look into the shade structures for the baseball dugouts.*

**Item 11.2**      **Resolution Approving a Consultant Services Agreement with Jane  
Media Services for social media and Communication Services-** It is  
recommended that the City Council consider adopting a Resolution  
Approving a Consultant Agreement with Jane Media Services for social  
media & Communication Services

City Manager Garcia, gave a comprehensive staff report and power point presentation on the recommended Consultant Agreement with Jane Media Services for Social Media and Communication Services.

City Council Discussed item with City Staff.

Randy Richardson, Riverbank resident to seek clarification on Jane Media Services.

Evelyn Halbert, Riverbank resident to seek clarification on the Drone usage.

There being no further public comment, Mayor O'Brien brought the item back to City Council.

**ACTION:** By motion moved and seconded (Uribe / Hernandez 4/0) to approve **Resolution 2024-102** approving a Consultant Services Agreement with Jane Media Services for social media and Communication Services.

Motion carried by unanimous City Council and LRA Board roll call vote:  
AYES: Uribe, Hernandez, Barber-Martinez, and Mayor O'Brien  
NAYS: None / ABSENT: None / ABSTAINED: None

## **12. COMMENTS/REPORTS**

*A brief report on notable attendance of a meeting or conference or other notable topics of City business shall be made. The Brown Act does not allow for discussion or action of items by the City Council/LRA Board during this time.*

### **Item 12.1** Staff

City Manager Garcia reported on the following:

- Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District is doing a clothing collection event for victims of Hurricane Helene, it's going to be a drive-through drop off. That's going to be this Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. here at Station 26, which is located at 3324, Topeka street. They're accepting new and gently used adults and children's clothing, particularly underclothes, which they request that they be new.
- Applications for the District 3 City Council vacancy will be accepted through Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at noon. Applications are available online or in the Administration Department at City Hall.
- The draft housing element is out for public review. You can access the document via our housing element webpage on our website. Or you can review a hard copy of that at City Hall North or City Hall South. A presentation for Council is scheduled for November 12<sup>th</sup> should any member of the public be interested in learning more.
- Join us this Friday and Saturday for our annual Haunted Hayride at Jacob Myers Park. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for kids ages 4-12, and kids 3 and under are free. The hayride begins at 7 p.m. And the gates will close at 10 p.m. There will be special activities happening beforehand, including a 5:30 p.m. showing of the movie Little Monsters on Saturday.

- Friday, November 1st is our annual Dia de los Muertos celebration. From 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. here in downtown. There will be live music, ballet folklorico, altars, vendors, and the catrin / catrina contest. Photographs for the community altar are being accepted by our Recreation Department. Registration forms for the catrin / catrina contest or for your own altar can also be done here in Recreation.
- Save the date! Goes for Council and members of our public for our 55th Annual Christmas Parade and craft fair. It's going to be happening Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is Action-Packed Christmas. The craft fair will begin at 3pm. The parade will begin at 5 p.m., and then the tree lighting and photos with Santa will happen after the parade.
- The Parks and Rec Department would like to give a huge thank you to Council members, city staff, community members, and everyone involved with this year's Cheese and Wine festival, a lot of time, work, and effort was put into making the event a success, in hopes of bringing back the nostalgia of what the event once was. Michael and his staff did a wonderful job of ensuring that the event ran smoothly, and that the experience for our residents and visitors was a positive one.

*Director of Public Works Bridgewater:*

- Mayor and members of Council, just a gentle reminder that the city staff meets the first Tuesday of every month to go over traffic complaints that we receive from council, staff, and other members of the community. We discuss things like speeding, stop sign issues, and other signage issues. Another example would be you know, additional crosswalks and the staff that is involved is myself, couple other key members from Public Works, Admin, our Engineering department and the Sheriff's department. We all meet together, to discuss these issues and come up with the best solution for moving forward. Maybe it's putting the speed trailer out and gathering data to see if it warrants an additional stop sign or additional enforcement. Looking at access issues that may require curb painting, such as red curb or white curb, that creates a loading zone thing of that nature. So, if you have any questions or concerns, you receive complaints from citizens, please direct them to public works. They can call and request that their item be put on the next agenda. And again, that's the first Tuesday of every month that we meet. Thank you.

**Item 12.2** Council/Authority Member

*Councilmember Hernandez reported on the following:*

- Just a bunch of thank yous today. I remember when we were kind of at that crossroads with what we were going to do with Riverbank's Cheese and Wine. I said let's just do one day and do it well, and that's all I've heard from the community that it was amazing. It was great. So, thank you.
- A few of us attended CalCities in Long Beach this last week. Where again it's great networking with colleagues from across the State. Great learning experiences, and something that stood out to me was a ground session I attended, which I'm happy to share PowerPoint slides if you all didn't attend.

- *Our Sierra House ribbon cutting was amazing. I am glad we were able to finally nail down all the stakeholders to come and celebrate what Sierra House is.*

*Councilmember Barber-Martinez reported on the following:*

- *I, too, want to say thank you to everyone that came out to our Cheese and Wine event, all of the city staff that helped to make it a success, and I've heard nothing but good things about the Cheese and Wine event, too.*
- *We are now accepting requests for toy donation boxes for Toys for Tots. You can sign up online on the Toys for Tots Foundation website. Then the Toys for Tots registrations for families will begin the 1st week of November for 3 weeks, and you can call Casa del Rio to register.*
- *I want to give you an update of what happened at the California League of Cities Conference that we went to last week. We did not reach a quorum to vote on the resolution. So therefore, we did agree we were all in favor to recommend the resolution to be forwarded to the Board of Directors for a decision, so that was that.*

*Vice Mayor Uribe reported on the following:*

- *Just a quick appreciation to all the Veterans. We all know all the sacrifices that they made so we can benefit in this country. One of those benefits is Election day, coming up November 5th exercise that right and get out there and vote. Thank you.*

### **Item 12.3** Mayor/Chair

*Mayor O'Brien reported on the following:*

- *The City participated with the schools Lights On and also The Walk and Roll. You didn't mention that. The school district was truly appreciative. They had a great event at California Avenue School. I was glad that I was able to participate along with a lot of our staff members. Thank you.*
- *And the celebration at for Antigua's 20th year was a great event, and that's what we need to do is continue celebrating individual businesses because they're here and doing a great job.*
- *Echoing the Cheese and Wine, I thought we looked at a single day years ago. I'm glad it did go for one day and it doesn't close down the City for 4 days while we're doing it.*
- *I want to thank Senator Eggman again for the Sierra House and those who were able to participate. I was a little disappointed that our press wasn't there, at a couple of these major events, but maybe we don't need them now with Sarah Jane.*

### **13. CLOSED SESSION**

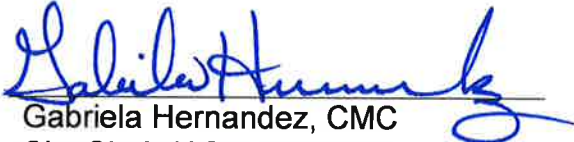
The public will have a limit of **3 minutes** to comment on Closed Session item(s) as set forth on the agenda prior to the City Council/LRA Board recessing to Closed Session.

*No Items Scheduled.*

**14. ADJOURNMENT OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

*There being no further business, Mayor / Chair O'Brien adjourned the regular meeting at 7:30 P.M. to the next regular scheduled City Council / LRA Meeting of November 12, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.*

ATTEST: (Adopted 11/12/2024)

  
Gabriela Hernandez, CMC  
City Clerk / LRA Recorder

APPROVED:

  
Richard D. O'Brien  
Mayor/ Chair

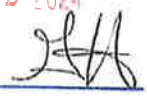
## CITY OF RIVERBANK

### Riverbank City Council

#### Public Comments

10/22/2024

OCT 22 2024

Received By: 

Good Evening Mayor and Council members,

My comments are as follows:

1. Wine and Cheese festival. This was an outstanding event and when I went on Saturday afternoon found a lot of folks out and about. I rode my bicycle to the event as parking was difficult to find. I did find two other bicyclists who were Stanislaus Sheriff's officers. Please note the officers were on 'electric bics' and I had a great conversation regarding the electric bics.
2. I applaud the city for the distribution of compost to the community and local farms. The Witzke farm has received 60 yards of compost at no cost. Under California Senate Bill 1383, as described in the California Code of Regulations Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 12, Article 12 – Procurement of Recovered Organic Waste Products (14 CCR 18993.1 et seq.), recovered green waste can be distributed to local people for use at no cost. The Witzke farm is a local farm located on River road and is using sustainable agricultural practices. Compost is used to build the soil health, tilth, and facilitate carbon recovery. Below are some pictures .



Gilton waste delivers upon written request to the farm located off River Road.

3. I have been reviewing the Housing element report and will send in comments before the due date. Of note the city planners need to consider higher density housing, and additional housing allocations to low, very low housing, infill and additional tiny homes. I would also strongly recommend the contracted vendor to do a full review of the housing element report as there are some document flow issues which confuse the reader.

Finally, it is the season to get out and vote! I have completed my ballot and am submitting this today!

Best regards.

Garry Pearson,  resident of district 3