



**City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes - Draft**

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

12:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Stapp called the meeting to order at 12:16 p.m. Due to technical difficulties with Zoom, the meeting was called to order a second time at 12:21 p.m.

Present: 4 - Mayor Mark Stapp, Vice Mayor Jeff Okrepkie, Council Member Eddie Alvarez, and Council Member Natalie Rogers

Absent: 3 - Council Member Caroline Bañuelos, Council Member Victoria Fleming, and Council Member Dianna MacDonald

2. REMOTE PARTICIPATION UNDER THE BROWN ACT (Gov. Code § 54953.8)

3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Mayor Stapp recessed the meeting to closed session at 12:22 p.m. to discuss Items 3.1 and 3.2 as listed on the agenda.

No public comments were made.

**3.1 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR
(Government Code Section 54957.6)**

Agency Designated Representative: Mayor Mark Stapp
Unrepresented Employee: City Manager

This item was received and filed.

**3.2 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE
TO LITIGATION**

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code § 54956.9, subdivision (d)(2) and (e)(1)): 1 potential case

This item was received and filed.

Mayor Stapp adjourned closed session at 2:06 p.m. and reconvened the meeting to the study session session at 2:16 p.m.

4. STUDY SESSION

Present: 4 - Mayor Mark Stapp, Vice Mayor Jeff Okrepkie, Council Member Eddie Alvarez, and Council Member Natalie Rogers

Absent: 3 - Council Member Caroline Bañuelos, Council Member Victoria Fleming, and Council Member Dianna MacDonald

4.1 GENERAL FUND BUDGET UPDATE

The Finance Department recommends that the City Council hold a Study Session regarding the Fiscal Year 2026-27 General Fund budget development. This item is presented for the Council's information and no action is required. This item has no impact on current fiscal year budget.

Scott Wagner, Chief Financial Officer, and Veronica Conner, Budget and Financial Analyst Manger, presented and answered questions from Council.

No public comments were made.

4.2 CALPERS PENSION UNFUNDED LIABILITY EXPENSES OVERVIEW AND POTENTIAL COST AVOIDANCE STRATEGIES

The Finance Department recommends that the City Council hold a Study Session regarding CalPERS pension expenses and potential cost avoidance strategies. This item is presented for the Council's information and no action is required. This item has no impact on current fiscal year budget.

Scott Wagner, Chief Financial Officer, and Michael Myer, Vice President of NHA Advisors, presented and answered questions from Council.

No public comments were made.

Mayor Stapp recessed the meeting from 4:00 p.m. to 4:09 p.m.

5. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ROLL CALL (IF NEEDED)

Present: 4 - Mayor Mark Stapp, Vice Mayor Jeff Okrepkie, Council Member Eddie Alvarez, and Council Member Natalie Rogers

Absent: 3 - Council Member Caroline Bañuelos, Council Member Victoria Fleming, and Council Member Dianna MacDonald

6. REPORT, IF ANY, ON STUDY AND CLOSED SESSIONS

Teresa Stricker, City Attorney, reported there was no reportable action taken in closed session, and study session was conducted regarding general fund budget update and CalPers pension unfunded liability.

7. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

7.1 PROCLAMATION - SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Council Member Rogers read and presented the Proclamation to Rebecca Fein, Executive Director of Verity.

Rebecca Fein, Executive Director of Verity, accepted the Proclamation with a call to action to continue building a community where survivors are supported without hesitation and with the resources that they deserve to heal.

No public comments were made.

8. STAFF BRIEFINGS - NONE.

9. CITY MANAGER'S/CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORTS

9.1 REPORT OF SETTLEMENTS AND ACTIVE LITIGATION

The City Attorney will report on all settlements authorized by Council in closed session that were finalized in March 2026, which includes but may not be limited to all settlements requiring the City to pay more than \$50,000. The City Attorney will also provide a summary of pending litigation against the City.

Lori Ann Farrell, Interim City Manager, reported on Earth Day, the Wildfire and Earthquake Safety Expo, construction on new electric vehicle charging stations in the downtown area, the opening of applications for the community promotions event support program, and nominations for the City of Santa Rosa Merit Awards.

Teresa Stricker, City Attorney, reported on the settlement of the claim of Sammylen Gedaro in March, and reported there are 31 current litigation matters with trial dates assigned to approximately one-quarter of these matters, and 4 cases currently on appeal following rulings in favor of the City at the trial court level.

No public comments were made.

This item was received and filed.

10. STATEMENTS OF ABSTENTION/RECUSAL BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

No statements of abstention/recusal were made.

11. MAYOR'S/COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS

Council Member Alvarez reported on a recent public safety meeting in Roseland.

Council Member Rogers reported on the 10-year anniversary of Orange Theory Fitness in Coddingtontown.

Vice Mayor Okrepkie reported on events recently attended.

Mayor Stapp reported on upcoming City projects and events recently attended.

No public comments were made.

11.1 MAYOR'S/COUNCIL MEMBERS' SUBCOMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS (AND POSSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTION TO BOARD REPRESENTATIVE ON PENDING ISSUES, IF NEEDED)

11.1.1 Council Subcommittee Reports

11.1.2 Sonoma County Transportation and Climate Authorities (SCTCA)

Vice Mayor Okrepkie provided a brief report.

11.1.3 Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) - Water Advisory Committee

11.1.4 Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)

11.1.5 Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District Advisory Committee

11.1.6 Sonoma Clean Power Authority (SCPA)

11.1.7 Zero Waste Sonoma (formerly known as Sonoma County Waste Management Agency (SCWMA))

11.1.8 Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)

11.1.9 Sonoma County Homeless Coalition

11.1.10 Renewal Enterprise District (RED)

11.1.11 Public Safety Subcommittee

Vice Mayor Okrepkie provided a brief report.

11.1.12 Other

11.2 SONOMA COUNTY MAYORS' AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' ASSOCIATION/CITY SELECTION COMMITTEE

11.2.1 SONOMA COUNTY MAYORS' AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' ASSOCIATION LETTERS OF INTEREST

The City Council will, by motion, provide direction to the Mayor regarding letters of interest received for appointment to the following vacancies to be made by the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Mayors' and Councilmembers' Association at its City Selection Committee meeting on May 14, 2026.

It is also recommended that if late nominations are received or if the Mayors' and Councilmembers' Board recommends alternates, that the City Council authorize the Mayor or their designated representative the authority to vote on these late nominations or recommendations. This item has no impact on current fiscal year budget.

City Selection Committee:

1. Airport Land Use Commission - One seat to fill the expiring term of Todd Lands of Cloverdale. Four-year term with expiration in May.
Letter received from:

- Ariel Kelley, Healdsburg

No public comments were made.

A motion was made by Council Member Rogers, seconded by Council Member Alvarez, to direct the Mayor to support the appointment of Ariel Kelley to the Airport Land Use Commission at the Sonoma County Mayors' and Councilmembers' Association at its City Selection Committee Meeting on May 14, 2026, and authorized the Mayor or designee the authority to vote on late nominations.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Mayor Mark Stapp, Vice Mayor Jeff Okrepkie, Council Member Eddie Alvarez, and Council Member Natalie Rogers

Absent: 3 - Council Member Caroline Bañuelos, Council Member Victoria Fleming, and Council Member Dianna MacDonald

12. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No public comments were made.

- 12.1** March 24, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes **(THIS ITEM IS BEING CONTINUED TO A DATE UNCERTAIN.)**

This item was continued to a date uncertain.

- 12.2** April 7, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Approved as submitted

- 12.3** April 10, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes.

Approved as submitted.

13. CONSENT ITEMS

No public comments were made.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Okrepkie, seconded by Council Member Rogers, to adopt Consent Items 13.1 through 13.8 as presented by staff.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Mayor Mark Stapp, Vice Mayor Jeff Okrepkie, Council Member Eddie Alvarez, and Council Member Natalie Rogers

Absent: 3 - Council Member Caroline Bañuelos, Council Member Victoria Fleming, and Council Member Dianna MacDonald

13.1 MOTION - AMENDMENT TO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING NUMBER F003065 WITH COUNTY OF SONOMA PROBATION DEPARTMENT FOR WEED ABATEMENT SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION: The Fire Department recommends that the Council, by motion, approve the First Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding Between City of Santa Rosa and the County of Sonoma Agreement Number F003065 for Weed Abatement services provided by the County of Sonoma Probation Department in an amount of \$68,000, for a total amount not to exceed \$167,000 and authorize the City Manager to make non-substantive changes to the Amendment, subject to approval by the City Attorney, and execute the Amendment. This item has no impact on current fiscal year budget.

This Consent - Motion was approved.

13.2 MOTION - AMENDMENT TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT - CALISTOGA ROAD PAVEMENT REHABILITATION AND UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS - MONTECITO BOULEVARD TO HIGHWAY 12

RECOMMENDATION: The Transportation and Public Works Department recommends that the Council, by motion: 1) approve Project Work Order Amendment Number A010135-2016-20B for Master Professional Services Agreement Number A010135 with Brelje and Race Consulting Engineers of Santa Rosa, California, to include updated pavement design, additional water and sewer scope, added curb ramps and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements, Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, and construction related engineering support with an increase in compensation of \$499,100.00 for a total not-to-exceed amount under the Agreement of \$908,900.00; and 2) authorize the Director of Transportation and Public Works or designee to make non-substantive changes to the Agreement, subject to approval by the City Attorney, and execute the Agreement. This item has no impact on current fiscal year budget.

This Consent - Motion was approved.

13.3 MOTION - CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD - C02540

PIERSON ST REHABILITATION

RECOMMENDATION: The Transportation and Public Works Department recommends that the Council, by motion, award Contract No. C02540 Pierson St Rehabilitation, in the amount of \$1,584,746 to the lowest responsible bidder, Coastside Concrete & Construction, Inc. of Santa Rosa, California, approve a 20% contract contingency in the amount of \$316,949, and authorize the City Manager or designee to execute the Contract and any change orders in a total contract amount of \$1,901,695. The source of funds is the Capital Improvement Fund. No City General Fund money is included in this project.

This Consent - Motion was approved.

13.4 MOTION - CITY OF SANTA ROSA AND GMV SYNCROMATICS CORP. THIRD AMENDMENT FOR COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH AND AUTOMATED VEHICLE LOCATION SYSTEM

RECOMMENDATION: The Transportation and Public Works Department recommends that the Council, by motion: approve the Third Amendment to Professional Services Agreement Number F002615 with GMV Syncromatics Corp. of Los Angeles, California, to increase compensation in an amount of \$238,514, for a total not to exceed amount of \$1,270,300; and 2) authorize the City Manager to make non-substantive changes to the Amendment, subject to approval by the City Attorney, and execute the Amendment. This item has no impact on current fiscal year budget.

This Consent - Motion was approved.

13.5 RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZATION OF PAYMENT TO AT&T FOR UTILITY RELOCATION AT FIRE STATION 5 AND DELEGATION OF SIGNATURE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE AND EXECUTE STANDARD FORMS AND AGREEMENTS WITH TELECOMMUNICATION COMPANIES

RECOMMENDATION: The Transportation and Public Works Department recommends that the Council, by resolution: 1) approve the second payment to Work Order ID CWO-31330 with AT&T of Dallas, Texas for Fire Station 5 utility relocation in the amount of \$45,917.45, for a total not to exceed \$131,600.64; and 2) delegate signature authority to the Directors of the Departments of Transportation and

Public Works, and Water to approve and execute standard forms and agreements with AT&T, Comcast and other telecommunication companies operating under a State of California franchise agreement within the City of Santa Rosa. This item has no impact on current fiscal year budget.

This Consent - Resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. RES-2026-040 ENTITLED: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT TO AT&T FOR UTILITY RELOCATION AT FIRE STATION 5 AND DELEGATE SIGNATURE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE AND EXECUTE STANDARD FORMS AND AGREEMENTS WITH TELECOMMUNICATION COMPANIES

13.6 RESOLUTION - SANTA ROSA CITYBUS PUBLIC TRANSIT AGENCY SAFETY PLAN UPDATE 2026

RECOMMENDATION: The Transportation and Public Works Department recommends that the Council, by resolution, adopt the Santa Rosa CityBus 2026 Public Transit Agency Safety Plan update to meet the requirements of the Federal Transit Administration's Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan Final Rule. This item has no impact on current fiscal year budget.

This Consent - Resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. RES-2026-041 ENTITLED: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA ADOPTING THE SANTA ROSA CITYBUS 2026 PUBLIC TRANSIT AGENCY SAFETY PLAN UPDATE

13.7 RESOLUTION - ADOPTION OF COUNCIL POLICY ENTITLED REQUESTS FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION ACCOMMODATION FOR LEGISLATIVE BODY MEMBERS WITH DISABILITIES AND REPEAL OF COUNCIL POLICY 000-34

RECOMMENDATION: The City Clerk's and City Attorney's Offices recommend that the Council, by two separate resolutions: 1) adopt a new Council policy entitled, "Requests For Remote Participation Accommodation for Legislative Body Members with Disabilities"; and 2) repeal outdated Council Policy 000-34 - "Establishing Policy for Citizen Public Appearances and Addressing the Council on Agenda Items." This item has no impact on current fiscal year budget.

These Consent - Resolutions were adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. RES-2026-042 ENTITLED: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA ADOPTING A COUNCIL POLICY ENTITLED " REQUESTS FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION ACCOMMODATION FOR LEGISLATIVE BODY MEMBERS WITH DISABILITIES"

RESOLUTION NO. RES-2026-043 ENTITLED: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA REPEALING COUNCIL POLICY 000-34 - "ESTABLISHING POLICY FOR CITIZEN PUBLIC APPEARANCES AND ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL ON AGENDA ITEMS"

- 13.8 ORDINANCE ADOPTION SECOND READING - ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA AMENDING TITLE 20 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADDRESS STREAMLINING AND PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT PROCESS

RECOMMENDATION: The Planning Commission and Planning and Economic Development Department recommend that the Council approve the second reading and adopt an ordinance to address streamlining and process improvements for the Conditional Use permit process. This ordinance, introduced at the April 7, 2026, Regular Meeting, passed by a 5-0-2-0 vote (Stapp and Alvarez absent).

This Consent - Ordinance was adopted on second reading.

ORDINANCE NO. ORD-2026-006 ENTITLED: ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA AMENDING TITLE 20 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADDRESS STREAMLINING AND PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT PROCESS

The time not yet being 5:00 p.m., Mayor Stapp called item 15.1 before Item 14.

15. REPORT ITEMS

- 15.1 REPORT - APPROVAL OF THE PRELIMINARY FY 2026-27 REGIONAL WATER REUSE SYSTEM OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT, AND DEBT SERVICE BUDGET AND ALLOCATION OF COSTS

BACKGROUND: The Regional Water Reuse System, managed by

Santa Rosa Water, serves five member agencies - Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, Sebastopol, Cotati, and the Sonoma County South Park Sanitation District, each hereinafter referred to as "User Agency" or collectively as "User Agencies." The Operating Agreement (Agreement) between the User Agencies requires that Santa Rosa Water annually prepare a Preliminary Budget and Allocation of Costs for the Regional Water Reuse System and notify the User Agencies of these costs by May of each year. The Board of Public Utilities annually recommends the proposed fiscal year Preliminary Budget and Allocation of Costs for the Regional Water Reuse System to the City Council to be included in the annual City budget adoption. The Regional Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Fund budget request is \$54,614,543, the Regional cash-funded Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is \$13,000,000, and the Regional debt service due is \$18,306,469.

RECOMMENDATION: Santa Rosa Water, the Board of Public Utilities, and the Subregional Technical Advisory Committee recommend that the Council, by resolution, approve the preliminary Fiscal Year 2026-27 Regional Water Reuse System Operating and Maintenance, Capital Improvement and Debt Service Budget and allocation of costs for the purposes of notifying the Regional Water Reuse User Agencies of their allocation of such costs by May 1, 2026. This item has no impact on current fiscal year budget.

Nick Harvey, Deputy Director Water Administration, presented and answered questions from Council.

No public comments were made.

A motion was made by Council Member Rogers, seconded by Council Member Alvarez, to adopt the resolution as recommended by staff.

RESOLUTION NO. RES-2026-044 ENTITLED: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 REGIONAL WATER REUSE SYSTEM OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND DEBT SERVICE BUDGET AND ALLOCATION OF COSTS

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Mayor Mark Stapp, Vice Mayor Jeff Okrepkie, Council Member Eddie Alvarez, and Council Member Natalie Rogers

Absent: 3 - Council Member Caroline Bañuelos, Council Member Victoria Fleming, and Council Member Dianna MacDonald

Mayor Stapp recessed the meeting from 4:51 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Present: 4 - Mayor Mark Stapp, Vice Mayor Jeff Okrepkie, Council Member Eddie Alvarez, and Council Member Natalie Rogers

Absent: 3 - Council Member Caroline Bañuelos, Council Member Victoria Fleming, and Council Member Dianna MacDonald

14. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS

Fred spoke on city staff salaries and cost of living adjustments.

16. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 16.1 PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION - ORDINANCE ENTITLED: ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA TO AMEND CHAPTER 18-46 - 2025 CALIFORNIA WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE CODE ADDING SECTION 18-46.202 - DEFINITIONS, WITH LOCAL AMENDMENT, AND UPDATE THE EXISTING DESIGNATED WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE AREA**

BACKGROUND: Following the release of the most recent Fire Hazard Severity Zones in the Local Responsibility Area maps by CAL FIRE in February of 2025, the Fire Department seeks to update the boundary of our local Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Area to reflect the changes in the High and Very High Severity Zones. By modifying our existing boundary to reflect the new areas of High and Very High within the City, we will ensure that State regulations applicable to both zones align with local ordinances applicable to our Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Area. This ordinance will also include the updated reference to the newly adopted 2025 California Wildland-Urban Interface Code.

RECOMMENDATION: The Fire Department recommends that the Council approve the first reading and introduce an Ordinance to amend Chapter 18-46 - 2025 California Wildland Urban Interface Code to add Section 18-46.202 Definitions, with local amendments, to the Santa Rosa City Code and update the existing designated Wildland Urban Interface Area. This item has no impact on the current fiscal year budget.

Mayor Stapp announced this item is continued to a future date.

16.2 PUBLIC HEARING - SUBMITTAL OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027 ACTION PLAN TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

BACKGROUND: The proposed action will authorize submittal of the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Action Plan (Plan) to HUD. HUD requires submittal of the Plan so that the City can receive federal housing and community development funds in the form of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) grants. In Fiscal Year 2026/2027, the City will receive \$1,268,543 in CDBG funds and \$620,063 in HOME funds for a total award of \$1,888,606.

RECOMMENDATION: The Housing and Community Services Department recommends that the Council, by resolution: 1) authorize submittal of the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and 2) authorize the City Manager to execute any forms or documents required by HUD to implement the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Action Plan.

Kelli Kuykendall, Housing and Community Services Manager, and Megan Basinger, Director of Housing and Community Services, presented and answered questions from Council.

Mayor Stapp opened the public hearing on 5:09 p.m.

Victoria Yanez spoke on residents with low income and zero income.

Mayor Stapp closed the public hearing on 5: 11 p.m.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Okrepkie, seconded by Council Member Alvarez, to adopt the resolution as presented by staff.

RESOLUTION NO. RES-2026-045 ENTITLED: RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027 ACTION PLAN TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Mayor Mark Stapp, Vice Mayor Jeff Okrepkie, Council Member Eddie Alvarez, and Council Member Natalie Rogers

Absent: 3 - Council Member Caroline Bañuelos, Council Member Victoria Fleming, and Council Member Dianna MacDonald

17. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - NONE.

18. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS

Victoria Yanez spoke on the Bethlehem Towers neighborhood.

19. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONTINUED CLOSED SESSION ITEMS, RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION IN THE MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM, RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS [IF NEEDED]

20. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Mayor Stapp adjourned the meeting at 5:17 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at at time set by the Mayor.

21. UPCOMING MEETINGS

21.1 UPCOMING MEETINGS LIST

This item was received and filed.

Approved on:

Rhonda Bolla, Deputy City Clerk